

35¢ out of town

Volume III, Number 26

Houston, Texas December 2 - 8, 1971

STAGE CITY! 25¢

Will Hermane Short Ride Again?

UP AGAINST
YONDER WALL
KNAVE!

LOYAL
MEMBERS
WELSH'S
ROUNDTABLE

THANKS
TO SAMPSON
BILL

THE SHERIFF OF HOUSTON,
FOLLOWER OF LOUIE THE
ONCE MORE RIDE FORTH TO SMASH THE
DEFILERS OF PURITY AND INNOCENCE

KLING 7

Letters

1217 Wichita, Houston, Texas 77004

Vendor Takes Notes

Dear Space City!

This is a note on vending SC! I made a vague study on purchasers and thought you could dig it. Sold 72 papers (I'm not greedy) in two days, made about \$11 and noticed weird things a lot.

For one - I sold lots of papers to police officers. Like five in one day. About eight to gay men attempting to pick me up (sorry brothers, it ain't my style), four to gay women, one to a huge gay construction worker, around 15 to Amerikan businessmen, one to a freaky deaf mute (instant friends), one to a middle-aged revolutionary woman who voted for Kamrath ("Who'd you vote for?") and the rest to my freaky brothers and sisters from high school or Montrose. Oh yeah, and one to a black bus driver who stopped the bus to get a SC!

Notably, young black brothers were openly hostile, sisters contemptuous of giggly, so-called rednecks were embarrassed or angry (or both). Upper middle-class women either locked their doors or "gave me the eye" - men for the most part, attempted to pretend I wasn't there. One man bought his young son a copy (good for you, Dad! I like you.) The implications of this study seem to point out that:

A) I may be a subconscious racist or maybe I just don't understand what it means when my black brothers sneer at me and refuse to buy Space City!

B) We've got a lot of support in the gay community.

C) The business world gets a thrill out of fraternizing with the enemy (especially the women).

D) And DEFINITELY too many vendors sell on Montrose. I spotted eight of us in a four block area Friday. Let's spread it out.

The cops that bought my papers were nice as hell, I wonder why these men don't join the narcotics division? They seem to have more than their

share of head busters (no pun intended.)

At any rate, I sold more papers to "straights" than "freaks" by far, it seemed. Of course, a lot of them just drove by too (So did a lot of "freaks"). All in all, I enjoyed it, it was profitable (damn that word), and I learned a lot about Houston folk.

See you next Thursday,
Zig

Einstein Offers Info

Space City!

In your last issue you published a list of companies who were involved in the effort to destroy the Big Thicket. However you did not include complete mailing addresses for these companies. When I called Space City! the only advice the guy could give me who answered the phone was to call information in the various cities and ask for the addresses. This seemed like a tiresome process. Probably you all are already familiar with the Thomas Register. In Volume 7 of the Thomas Register companies are listed alphabetically and their mailing addresses (after telephone numbers) are given. It is very simple to use and is easily located in most public libraries. At the University of Houston it is found in the basement of the library. People need to know of this book. So could you tell your telephone answerers about it? Probably other people also needed this information and may from time to time call in to ask about it.

Other than that I wanted to thank you all for the work you are doing. The articles by John Sayer, the information about the candidates in the past elections and especially the conversations between Greg Salazar and Karl Doerner were most helpful. In the past articles such as that on President Allende have really thrown some light onto subjects that are fairly seldom explored.

Thank you,
Eobionst Einstein

We have been temporarily made phoneless, but there are a number of neat people around town who are more fortunate. Some of their numbers are listed below. And we are still struggling along at 1217 Wichita. Come by and see us some time.

PHONE

ACLU	524-5925
BLACK PANTHER PARTY	224-3682
COUNTDOWN '72	528-1559
CRISIS HOTLINE	228-1505
DRAFT COUNSELING	225-5191
FAMILY CONNECTION	523-6825
FOOD STAMP OFFICE	227-6371
GAY WOMEN'S LIBERATION	524-2217
HOUSTON COMMITTEE TO END THE WAR	227-1646
INLET DRUG CRISIS	526-7925
KAUM	526-5873
GEN. OFFICES	741-0050
STUDIO LINE	748-4901
KAUM NEWS	748-1479
KLOL	222-8103
LIBERTY HALL	225-6250
LYNN EUSAN CLINIC	523-7960
NAACP	529-4195
NOW	333-3270
OPERATION BREADBASKET	224-9057
PACIFICA (KPFT)	224-4000
PAPEL CHICANO	674-4097
PEACE CENTER	227-1646
PLANNED PARENTHOOD	522-3976
PRAIRIE LAW COLLECTIVE	224-3062
PROBLEM PREGNANCY	523-5354
523-7408	524-2521
SPACE CITY!	526-6257
TIME SERVICE	222-7171
UNITED FARM WORKERS' ORGANIZING COMMITTEE	524-9404
UNIVERSITY OF THOUGHT	526-5547
VD CLINIC	222-4201
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WHOLE LIFE CATALOGUE

DOMEBOOK 2

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In Black & Brown
Communities....

People Beaten, Shot, Killed By Police

by Karen Northcott

"We render a service to the public. We're all they have." Police Chief, Herman Short.

To young and Third World people continual police harassment, surveillance and an atmosphere of violence are neither new nor exceptional. Dissenting organizations and individuals and residents in the black and brown communities have constantly been the victims of violence perpetrated against them by members of the Houston Police Department (HPD).

The service rendered by the HPD to Third World people appears to be an apparent policy of repression and violence. And this service is on the upswing. In the weeks preceding the Nov. 20 city election and the Dec. 7 runoff the number of arrests, beatings and shootings of blacks and browns has increased. Space City! has learned of six instances of what can only be termed unwarranted shows of force by the men in blue.

On Saturday, Nov. 13, black activist and City Council candidate Ovide Duncantell, 35, of 4102 Rosemont, was involved in what he termed a "frame-up" and what Mayor Louie Welch termed a "politically unfortunate" arrest. (See Space City! Vol II No. 24.) While driving home from a meeting with campaign volunteers, Duncantell was pulled over by a patrol car and subsequently charged with possession of marijuana, assaulting two police officers, fleeing from the officers, speeding and not having a valid driving license.

Duncantell and the arresting officers offer differing versions of the arrest.

The officers claim that they noticed a station wagon going 47 miles an hour in a 30 miles per hour zone and that they turned on the patrol car's spotlight, red light and siren, and used the bullhorn in an effort to get the motorist to stop.

Once they succeeded in getting the car stopped, the motorist shoved Officer P.L. Trumble and then tried to drive away, the officer said.

The policemen said that a scuffle followed during which Duncantell was wrestled to the ground. Trumble said that he ordered the man to get out of the car but his order was ignored.

Trumble's partner, Officer F.C. Miller attempted to handcuff Duncantell as Trumble radioed for help. Approximately 15 patrol cars came to the rescue.

One of the rescuing officers then found a matchbox of marijuana on the dashboard of Duncantell's car.

Duncantell told Space City! he was beaten with the butt of a flashlight 25 or 30 times by one of the arresting officers. He was later taken to Ben Taub Hospital where he was treated for head abrasions. The left side of his head was swollen, the eye nearly shut. He said the officers' pistols were drawn when they approached him.

Duncantell said that the patrol car had followed him for a number of blocks before the officers made any indication to him that it was a police car. The officers turned on the car's siren and spotlight in a dark, dark section of River-side and he decided to drive ahead to a better lighted area so in case anything happened to him he "could have witnesses."

The officers jumped out of the car, pistols drawn, shouting epithets. Duncantell said that he feared that they were "intending to do bodily injury to me, so I grabbed one to defend myself."

The officers made repeated references to his campaign for a seat on the City Council and his past political activism.

The officers filed five charges against him and Duncantell is contemplating



filling suit against them.

Mayor Welch, in his weekly press conference, called the arrest "politically unfortunate," saying that it offered Duncantell the opportunity to charge that his arrest and continued harassment were politically motivated; charges which Welch denied.

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, local organizer for the Free Angela Davis Committee, Mickey McGuire, was beaten and subsequently arrested for aggravated assault on a police officer by Vice Squad Officer Albert Banks at an Operation Breadbasket benefit. (See Space City! Vol III No. 25.)

McGuire was taking tickets at the door when two well-dressed black men tried to come through without tickets. He blocked their path and told them they would not be allowed entry without paying.

The officers failed to identify themselves as policemen (it is a policy to let officers in free) and began to order McGuire around calling him "boy" and "Nigger." A scuffle followed during which McGuire was wrestled to the ground, dragged to the patrol car (dropped several times enroute) handcuffed and tossed into the patrol car. McGuire told Space City! that while he was handcuffed one of the policemen picked him up by the throat to throw him into the car.

McGuire was taken to the downtown station where he claims he was again beaten by the arresting officers plus some others.

He was eventually taken to Ben Taub Hospital where he saw a throat specialist who worked on him for four hours. He was then taken back to the city jail and almost immediately transferred to the county jail.

McGuire was released some 20 hours after his arrest. He said that the officers who processed him singled him out as "a militant" and wanted him to say that he "loved the Police" before they would release him.

McGuire was charged with aggravated assault on a police officer, beaten during the arrest and at the station.

On Saturday, Nov. 20, James Oiler and Roger Edwards were stopped in the 3300 block of Beulah for a license check by Officer C.R. Herman; Oiler was later charged with robbery by assault and possession of a matchbox of marijuana.

Officer Herman said that he smelled the odor of marijuana as he approached the car. As he tried to handcuff Roger Edwards, 23 of 3400 Corinth, both men jumped on him, attacked him and beat him to the ground according to Herman. Oiler supposedly managed to take away the officer's pistol and aimed it at him for several minutes.

Herman said that he was retreating towards his car when he ducked behind another car and pulled a second pistol. "One of them was trying to get the safety off, so I opened up on him," Herman said. Oiler suffered superficial head wounds.

The right front tire of the automobile was shot out and the two men and an unidentified woman managed to get away. They abandoned the car a few blocks away and Oiler was captured and two others escaped, taking Herman's pistol, the officer charged.

One man charged with aggravated assault on an officer and possession, shot in the arrest.

On Sunday morning, Nov. 20, an unidentified Harris County constable on horseback was involved in some sort of incident with a black youth in the vicinity of Kewanee Street. No one was charged with any offense.

cont. on 16

SWP to Run Leonard For Governor

Debby Leonard, Socialist Workers Party (SWP) candidate for mayor in the recent election, has announced that she is the SWP's candidate for governor of Texas.

Michael Alewitz, a 20-year-old University student, will share the ticket, seeking the post of Lt. Governor.

"This will be the biggest Socialist campaign in Texas history," Leonard told reporters at a press conference at the SWP headquarters at 6409 Lyons Ave.

"We will be taking our campaign to every corner of the state, building the anti-war and women's liberation movements, speaking out for high school

rights, visiting Army bases to speak to GIs, defending the right of working people to oppose Nixon's wage freeze and building support for the Raza Unida Party," Leonard continued.

Alewitz, who was an activist at Kent State University before moving to Austin, was an unsuccessful write-in candidate for the Austin City Council elections.

Technically, the SWP is ineligible to nominate candidates because it failed to file by Nov. 7 a letter stating its intention to do so, a statutory requirement, according to Randall Wood, director of elections for the Secretary of State's office in Austin.

The SWP State Campaign Director, Susan LaMont, said that the party will most likely challenge in court the requirement that such letters be filed a year in advance of elections.

Independent parties are also required to collect signatures of voters equalling one per cent of the vote in the previous gubernatorial election.

LaMont said the party will probably challenge the 20-day period during which the signatures must be collected as too short.

SCLC Endorses Hofheinz

The Houston chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) has endorsed candidate Fred Hofheinz for mayor in the Dec. 7 runoff election. The endorsement is the first political endorsement the organization has ever made in Houston.

The organization, which was founded in 1957 under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., also endorsed Mrs. Karl Kamrath for the Houston Independent School Board and Leonel Castillo for city controller.

SCLC, since its inception, has labored for first class citizenship for black Americans on social, economic and political grounds. The organization has played a major role in the passage and adherence to the Civil Rights Act, the Economic Opportunity Act and the Voting Rights Act.

The organization, in Houston, heretofore has worked largely on campaigns for equal employment and contract rights carried on by Operation Breadbasket. The decision to endorse three candidates in the runoff election serves to emphasize the strong political dimension which the SCLC can command in the matters of local government.

"We will campaign actively for the election of these three candidates, and as soon as the election is held, we will select candidates to support for the legislative and congressional elections next May," John L. Guess, member of the local SCLC board, said at a press conference Monday, Nov. 28.

Guess said that SCLC feels one of the basic priorities is that blacks turn out Dec. 7 to vote for the three candidates and that he expected, with the SCLC endorsement, to increase the black voter turnout to 60 to 70 per cent, an increase of 20 to 30 per cent from that in the Nov. 20 city election.

"We feel we have the deciding vote in Houston. With 400,000 blacks in Houston, we feel we should definitely have a say so in what the future of Houston will have for the minority communities," Guess continued.

Pluria Marshall, chairman of Operation Breadbasket, stated that Houston is ready for a change and that Fred Hofheinz might be able to offer that change. "It is evident within the minority community that Houston would like a change. Mayor Welch came out with only 8 per cent of the black vote Nov. 20 whereas in the past he has polled much higher. So I know from our vantage point, that our people came out and backed Hofheinz and they are looking for a change."

"I feel that with Houston growing at the rate it is growing now, we need to have positive leadership in City Hall that is being responsive to the entire community, not just a certain segment of it. The present administration is geared extensively to big business. I don't think he (Mayor Welch) actually feels what the majority of the public is going through," Marshall continued.

Rev. Bill Lawson of Wheeler Ave. Baptist Church, local SCLC member, endorsed the three candidates saying, "Even with blacks on the City Council and the School Board, unless we can do something fairly significant to the structure we still haven't given Judson Robinson very much of a background. (Judson Robinson, a black real estate salesman was elected to the City Council in the Nov. 20 city election, by just barely clearing the 50 per cent majority required to win an election).

The organization also called on "all black people" to observe a "Black Christmas" this year by buying very sparingly.

"Black people have been poor for many years, and extravagance has not been possible for us. We must not now be made into economic puppets of a system which would enslave us to our bills. We will pass the word to every neighborhood and make it an issue of dignity and of selection of priorities. We will not boycott any merchant or region. We are not encouraging lavish spending with black merchants, either. This year we urge that Black Christmas be a time when we again give ourselves to each other rather than cold merchandise. And we will urge that our monies be conserved to pay for political power and black unity next year instead of toys that break quickly and clothes that are phased out before they wear out," said a press release issued by the SCLC.

Countdown 72: Youth Vote Can Make the Difference

Countdown 72, a youth oriented group that concerns itself with electoral politics, issued a statement this week asking young people to vote in the Dec. 7 run-off and implicitly suggesting the direction that vote should take.

"Throughout the campaigns, COUNTDOWN 72 has taken strong stands advocating the dismissal of Herman Short as Police Chief, the reorganization of the police department, harsh crackdowns on polluters and a stiff ethical code for public officials," the statement read.

"The incumbent mayor is diametrically opposed to these positions. He will not fire Herman Short. As we have said before, this is the key issue. Chief Short has stated that he will resign if Fred Hofheinz is elected mayor. And we want to remind young voters that the City of Houston, under the direction of the present mayor, is the worst polluter in the Houston metropolitan area.

"We urge young voters to keep these statements in mind when they make their choice on Tuesday."

The statement also said that Countdown 72 thinks control of the city's funds should not lay exclusively with the mayor. "An alert, informed, and concerned individual belongs in the City Controller's office, as watchman of public expenditures," the statement reads. Countdown 72 points out that the incumbent controller has not been able to perform his job for more than a year, due to a stroke he suffered some time ago.

"COUNTDOWN 72 urges young voters to be sure their choice for City Controller is physically and mentally capable of doing a thorough job," the statement reads.

The organization reminded the electorate that one out of every five voters in Houston is under 25, adding, "in races as close as Tuesday's run-off elections, your vote can make all the difference in Houston's future."

Houston Gay Liberation Plans Dance

What has Houston Gay Liberation been up to during the past month? Participation in the Nov. 6 anti-war march; contacting Houston's mayoral candidates with request for a statement of their willingness to recognize gays' demands; continuing of our regular Tuesday night meetings, and a renewal of the weekly consciousness raising groups which were allowed to lapse several months ago; and plans for a Gay Dance at the University of Houston Saturday, Dec. 11; among other things.

Although Houston Gay Liberation does not, as an organization, take an official stand on political issues not directly related to Gays, there were nevertheless a number of us from both Houston and Austin who wished to participate in the Nov. 6 march. We carried banners for the Houston and Austin gay groups; while some chose to march under the banners of other groups with whom they are in harmony.

Our Political Action Committee sent a letter to each of the mayoral candidates in an attempt to learn the attitude of that candidate toward gays, and whether there could be communication concerning the hostility and maltreatment of gays which has existed under the present regime. Of the candidates, two only chose to reply to us. Debby Leonard, Socialist Workers Party candidate, replied promptly with assurance that our demands for fair treatment would be immediately accepted should she become mayor. Fred Hofheinz sent us a telegram stating that he would be willing to arrange a meeting to discuss the situation; but this was subsequently impossible due to close scheduling and the nearness of election day.

Our Tuesday night meetings continue as usual at the UH University Center at 8 p.m. All interested in the programs of Gay Liberation are invited to attend. We have a brief business meeting, followed by informal discussion of plans and matters of general interest. Our consciousness raising group meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays, same location. This is for those who have questions to share in personal discussion with others who will understand.

Our next Gay Dance is scheduled for Saturday night, December 11, at the UH. We understand that State Representative Sid Bowers, in the process of an "investigation" into the appropriation of student activity funds, recently expressed great shock that such a thing as a gay dance should be tolerated; but we say that this is part of our freedom of personal expression which we should have demanded long ago. We hope to see you there for the dance, gay or straight!



Leonel Castillo in Run-off for Controller

A Little Mayor

by Rick Fine

Perhaps the most influential yet least appreciated office in Houston politics is that of City Controller.

According to the City Charter, the controller must "superintend and supervise the fiscal (\$\$) affairs of the City of Houston." He must countersign, along with the mayor, for all expenditures made by the City. Of course, he may also refuse to sign for any unwise city expenditures, thus vetoing such appropriations. Also, the controller must let the public know how its money is being spent. In many ways, the controller is actually a "little mayor."

The controller is elected every two years, along with the mayor and city councilmen. The present controller, Roy Oakes, is 71 years old and slowly recovering from a paralyzing stroke that has left him incapable of performing his duties. Oakes has held office since 1945 (really!) and in all those years has never been opposed for reelection. This time, however, Oakes has an opponent.

Leonel Castillo has forced Oakes into the Dec. 7 run-offs, after leading both Oakes and H. Lloyd Jennings in the Nov. 20 elections. In the past, Castillo has balanced the books as Associate Director of the Peace Corps, Manpower programs administrator

and board member of the Neighborhood Centers Day Care Association. He holds a masters degree in urban community development.

Last Sunday night, I interviewed Castillo at his campaign headquarters at 2903 Louisiana. Castillo alleges that Oakes, who has not attended a city council meeting for a year, is not running for office, but is *being run* for office. His reasoning is clear and simple: certain powers at City Hall stand to benefit by Oakes' absence. Oakes, on the other hand, contends that Mayor Welch persuaded him to run again so that he could get a better pension plan. You decide.

Referring to Oakes' recent, but unfortunate, physical handicaps, Castillo questions the worth of a watchdog that cannot watch. Citing instances in which Oakes failed to act, he points to the issue of a city hall annex. "The annex was voted down by the taxpayers several times in bond elections, yet it is still going up," Castillo said. So how is that possible? The controller has to sign for this. I think that's definitely questionable. This again is the kind of thing that he should be answering and explaining, but he can't because he's not there."

The controller's greatest influence, according to Castillo, comes in preparing the budgets for all city depart-

ments. "The principles on which the budgets are based would have to be looked at very closely. For example, I would like to see city departments hire minority members, and I would be very insistent upon this with all city officials when we submit the budgets to city council."

Castillo favors line-item budgets, rather than gross figures. "I wouldn't say, 'Personal Salaries: \$40,000,000!' I would want to say, 'Salaries,' and then have a big breakdown." This would be followed by detailed press release information telling the public what is actually happening to its money.

"I'd like to have discussions on priorities. When you make a budget, you don't just shift dollars," Castillo said. "You shift them on the basis of some philosophical principles or beliefs. In that sense, we'd have a great deal of influence on a police chief or a fire chief or whoever it may be."

Furthermore, the controller must report on any hanky-panky, financial or otherwise, by any city official or employee. "It's possible that if a certain department did not report expenses for something that's making a lot of news, the controller could insist that the expenses for that item be reported," Castillo said. For example, how much money is being spent for helicopters or intelligence or sewers for

the Third Ward or whatever the matter might be? Whatever the people want to know, they have a legitimate right to it."

Castillo is also working up a youth internship program, under which young people could work in city government as part of their school work. For college or high school credit, a student could work in the controller's office and thereby understand how the city really works.

Expressing disappointment in the low turnout of young voters on Nov. 20, Castillo expects an increase for the Dec. 7 run-offs. Thirteen polling places are located in high schools, so with the run-offs on a school day (Tuesday), students at these 13 schools need only walk down the hall to vote. The youth vote, Castillo feels, will assure him of a winning margin.

He carries endorsements from the Coalition for Better Government, the Harris County Democrats, the Harris County Council of Organizations, the Greater Houston Civic Clubs, the University of Houston Daily Cougar, the Jewish Herald Voice, the local branch of the Southern Christian Leadership Council and various labor unions and accounts.

For further information, contact Leonel Castillo campaign headquarters at 523-8168.

Fired by Turrentine

County Worker Files Suit

A young deputy clerk who claims that he was fired by County Clerk Bob Turrentine for wearing a black armband in protest of the war in Vietnam to work filed a class action suit against the county last week.

Elroy James Spanihel, 24, a long-haired Army veteran, was a computer programmer and deputy clerk from January 1969 until Oct. 15 when he and two other county employees, Tim Garcia and Gary Shores, were fired.

The class action suit, filed by attorneys Edward Mallett and Chris Nelson, seeks Spanihel's reinstatement and back pay and asks that other such public employees be protected by the court from interference with their private life styles and harassment by other employees.

The suit petitioned U.S. District Judge Woodrow Seals to order reinstatement and protection of constitutionally guaranteed rights pending a hearing on the issues.

Deputy Clerks Anita J. Rodeheaver, Edna Lee Allison, Harold Gilbert and Poland Bush were named as defendants in addition to Turrentine.

Spanihel told Space City! that he received merit raises in his two and a half years with the county, that he was working with "highly sophisticated and delicate computer software" and trained others to do so.

He said that Turrentine himself had no objection to his long, pony-tailed hair and repeatedly told him that it was no problem. "Mr. Turrentine often told me that no man has the right to tell another man how to wear his hair," Spanihel said. However, Turrentine did say that other employees did object to the length of his hair.

Spanihel, Shores and Garcia wore black armbands to work Oct. 13 to protest the war in Indochina, which prompted Mrs. Rodeheaver to complain about their dress to Turrentine, the suit contends.

Turrentine called the three into his office and rebuked them about their dress — which Spanihel claims was ordinary business clothes — and Mrs. Rodeheaver explained that it was the armbands to which she objected. They were told to remove the armbands and did so, Spanihel said.

"They freaked out and told us not to wear the armbands," Spanihel said. "Mr. Turrentine said that most of the people in the office were not sympathetic toward my opposition to the war and that he would rather please them than me," Spanihel continued.

The next day vice squad sergeant, G.S. McMenamy, and Houston Black Panther Party Chairman, James Aaron, were involved in an incident in front of the court house which resulted in the arrest of Aaron and some of his supporters.

Spanihel returned from a coffeebreak and was questioned by his supervisor, Miss Allison, about the incident, which he did not see. He said that he told her

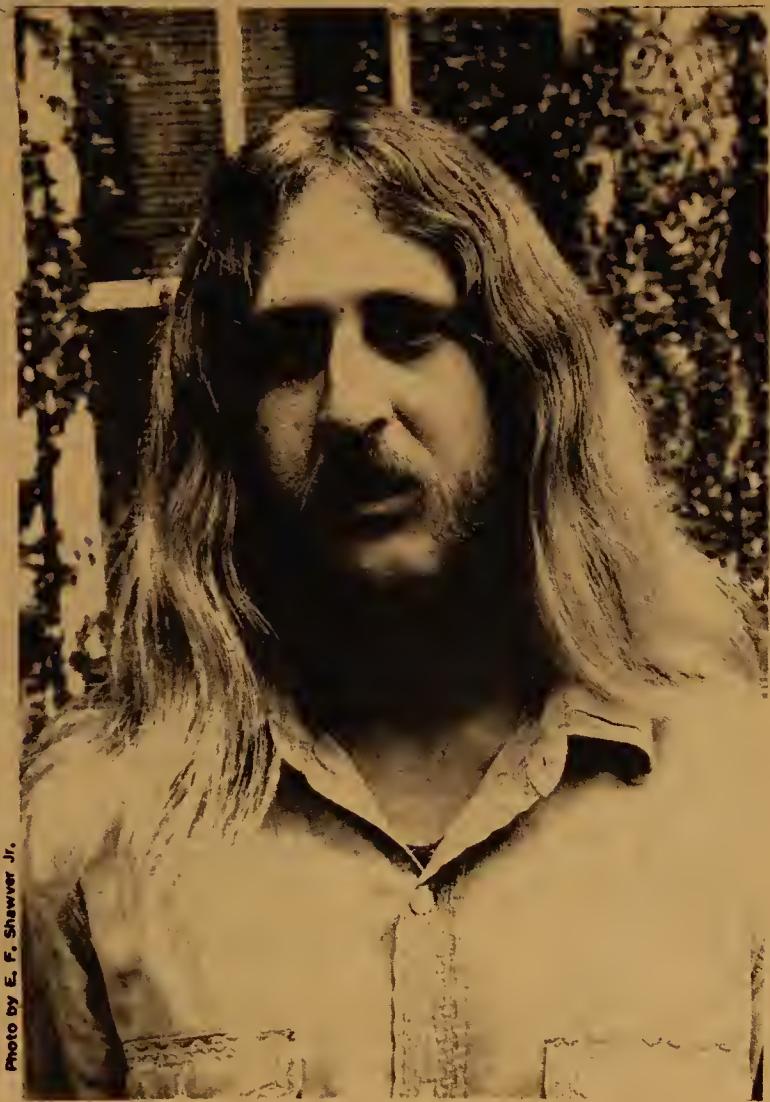


Photo by E. F. Shawver Jr.

Elroy Spanihel

that he had only heard that "some cops beat up a black dude," a remark which led to his being called a "nigger-lover."

Some of the employees began arguing that the police had the right to beat up blacks and that white people were socially superior, Spanihel said. He told Space City! that he continued the conversation with his co-workers until one of them walked off.

The next morning, Spanihel said, he, Shores and Garcia were called in by Turrentine and summarily fired in the presence of the three defendants.

The reason given for the firing, the suit alleges, were that Spanihel "had tried to help the Black Panthers fight the police" and that he "believed in the violent overthrow of the government."

"I was not even allowed to give my side of the story," Spanihel said.

Then, Spanihel said, he was ordered to leave the court house on threat of forced removal or arrest by sheriff's deputies. No reason for the threat of arrest was given.

Spanihel believes Turrentine fired him because he wore the black armband and because he disagreed with "Miss Allison's opinions about black people."

The suit cited violation of civil rights as guaranteed by the First, Fifth, Ninth and Fourteenth amendments to the Constitution. These amendments guarantee freedom of speech, the right to due process of law, freedom of association and the right to due process of law as applied against State acts as incorporated within the Fourth amendment.

The suit alleges that all regulations of the clerk's office apply and affect equally all members of the class of public employees on whose behalf the suit was brought, and that they will suffer irreparable injury unless relief is granted.

Turrentine refused to comment on the case, saying that he did so on the advise of his attorney.

Lawyers Permitted to File Briefs

Induction Delays Granted

U.S. District Judge Woodrow Seals enjoined the federal government last week from drafting five Houston area men into the military service pending a show cause hearing Dec. 6.

The class action petition alleges the draft law signed by President Nixon Sept. 28 forbids involuntary injunction against anyone within 90 days of its taking effect.

Attorneys Richard Prinz and Steve Ezen, in filing the suit, said the new draft law contains procedural changes

and that the 90-day moratorium on inductions was intended to give registrants a chance to take advantage of new safeguards in the Act.

Safeguards inherent in the Act include the right to be given reasons for denying requests for conscientious objector status or hardship deferments and the right to appear in person before the Selective Service Appeals Board, according to Prinz and Ezen.

Judge Seals declined to make the

suit applicable to all Texans as the suit had asked, but gave the lawyers a chance to file briefs Monday on the class action plea.

The judge said that he didn't think the plaintiffs represented all recently drafted Texans. He said some prospective inductees would not welcome a delay.

If the court grants the full relief sought, the suit could affect 1,000 people in Texas, the lawyers contend.

The five individual plaintiffs, all scheduled for induction in early December, are Louis A. Salinas, 23, of 215 Westheimer, Apt. 1; Raymond Lee Valdez, 20, of 903 66th; William Foster, 22, of Seabrook and Robert E. Creuzbaur, 24, a resident of Galveston scheduled for induction in Houston.

In a similar action filed here Nov. 12, U.S. District Judge Carl O. Bue issued a temporary restraining order sought by Frank Bennett Harvie Jr., a Houston lawyer scheduled for induction this month.

VOTE TUESDAY, DEC. 7

Readers of Space City!

We are writing to urge your participation in the up-coming run-off election. Already in the Nov. 20 election you have demonstrated your interest and your power through your support of change-oriented candidates in the city council, mayoral and school board elections.

BUT THERE IS MORE COMING DOWN ON DEC. 7 AND YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

Folks between the ages of 18 and 26 make up a significant percentage of Houston's registered voters. (In the Montrose community, 30 per cent of the electorate is in that age group.) One third of the vote carries a lot of clout! As a community of youth, you can be the decisive factor in the run-off elections. Your Vote IS Power.

YOU CAN VOTE IN THE DEC. 7 RUNOFF EVEN IF YOU DID NOT VOTE IN THE NOV. 20 ELECTION

There is one issue in the city elections which we feel is the most important to young people: the relationship of the Police Department to youth and minority communities. Whenever the old and new style politics intersect in Houston, the result is cops busting people. Herman Short has set this style of confrontation with youth and minorities, and Louie Welch appointed Herman Short.

VOTE AGAINST THE BUST AS THE STYLE OF POLITICS IN HOUSTON!

Vote for:

Fred HOFHEINZ for Mayor

Leonel CASTILLO for Controller

Jerry McGEE for City Council

Mrs. Karl KAMRATH for School Board

Right on!

harris county democrats

Dick Manne, Chairman

2323 Travis
528-2057

The Youth Vote is POWER



The Houston Pest

A CRITICAL REVIEW OF TEXAS JOURNALISM

This is the first installment of The Houston Pest. The Pest page is dedicated to thoughtful, critical examinations of the Houston and Texas media—newspapers, magazines, radio and television. Space City! recognizes that the news media are among the most important opinion and behavior shaping institutions. It should be discussed, analyzed, criticized and mucked just like any other powerful American institution.

In future Pest pages, we hope to do such things as expose internal hanky-panky within the structures of the various potent communications media, to discuss media treatment of different events and issues, to analyze the workings of various media, to compare them to each other. We hope to receive contributions from staff members of newspapers, radio and television stations (anonymity will be preserved).

At first, we anticipate that the Pest will not be a regular, weekly feature; it will happen when it can. But eventually we hope to make it a regular page in Space City! as those interested in the news media realize the need for a critical journalism review in Houston.

Star Blight

by Karen Northcott

There's a new star on the Texas horizon and it's enough to make those of us who are beset with paranoid nightmares consider taking to the hills.

Texas has a new Sunday supplement, the Texas Star, circulated by 26 Texas newspapers at a rate of nearly a million and a half copies per issue, giving it probably the largest weekly readership in the state. Because it's a Sunday supplement its high circulation is pretty much assured, but the figure is still remarkably large for a publication that has only existed since May.

At first glance, the Texas Star seems innocuous enough — simple to the point of being ridiculous. All the regular column headlines use the word "Star": like "Star Light," "Star Bright," "Rising Star," "Star Hostess," "Early Star . . ." The articles between Star Comment (the editorial column) and Star Bright (the humor column) are, with few deviations, the same, week after week.

There is usually a jingoistic piece ("Texas OUR Texas"), a thing about an artist who has had no formal training but has made it anyway ("Sagebrush Sculptress of Lubbock," "Gridiron Gold," and one about the Alabama-Coushatta tribes women and their basketweaving), a Chamber of Commerce article singing the praises of a particular city ("HOUSTON — A Star-Sighted City") and an inspiring ditty on somebody from Texas who is now in fat city. (Can a once popular star on stage and screen find happiness by returning to Texas? Dorothy Malone is living proof; Bullet Bob Hayes, riding tall in the saddle; Ben Barnes.)

The magazine first strikes you as merely another conglomeration of fanatical, sentimental, chamber-of-commerce, right-wing, ridiculous crap. It's published by Gordon Fulcher, a newspaper publisher and the current chairman of the Texas Water Quality Control Board. The editor is Jimmy Banks who used to be the Austin correspondent for the Dallas Morning News and an unsigned columnist for the Houston Tribune. The staff humorist is Wick Fowler. One of the Star's founders is the honorable Secretary of the Treasury John Connally.

The first couple of times you read it, you just might let it slip by. But upon careful examination, the full horror begins to seep in. It ceases to be a laughing matter. It was created in all seriousness: the magazine is more than disgusting; it's an alarming, dehumanizing proto-fascist rag masquerading as journalism.

The politics of the magazine speaks for itself. John Connally, in the first issue

May 16, explained what the magazine is all about:

Too often, I think, too many people make the mammoth mistake of magnifying our faults and of failing to appropriately realize our assets. All of my life, I have felt that America is truly beautiful and that our Texas is the greatest state of all . . .

We plan to utilize our space to throw light on the brighter side of our state and its people, in the hope that the good ideas and the good deeds we describe will be contagious. We guarantee an epidemic of good reading, designed to entertain and help Texas in a longer reach for greatness . . .

It seems that the publisher and the founders of the Star have carried a time-honored journalistic custom to the extreme — that of relying on and accepting official sources, be they government, big business or academia. For they are the official sources.

David Helton, an Austin author, wrote in the Aug. 13, 1971, Texas Observer:

In other words, if we just lie enough, everything will be alright. Now the kind of lying he (Connally) means is that old favorite kind useful to people who are in power and want to stay there. It's called "telling the bright side." It's respectable. All the best governments do it, some of the official publications, like Pravda, others in presidential press conferences; businesses do it and call it advertising or public relations; individuals do it and sometimes call it being discreet. And the Texas Star does it. We know this because John Connally is right there in black-and-white saying that that's what the magazine is designed to do. (Texas politicians have always had a certain amount of trouble getting a hold on subtlety.)

Of course — of course — there's something wrong with this kind of lying, mainly that it's lying, however palatable it may seem to the one being lied to. But what else is wrong is that someone has got to determine what the "bright side" is. Whose bright side? To me someone else's bright side (i.e., that the U.S. leads the world in automobiles, etc.) might be perfectly dismal, and so when someone tells me that I am receiving the bright side I have to assume that he is telling me what he wants me to consider the bright side, that he is trying to deliver me a line. Getting back to motives, I have to ask next why anyone wants to deliver this line to me and a million and a half others, and there's no conclusion but that it's in the line-deliverer's interest to do so.

Who is this line-deliverer? Well, who does it look like? When you've sifted it all

NOVEMBER 14, 1971



A KICK OUT OF LIFE: Kilgore's famous Rangerettes

out, who's left but say the resident aristocracy of Texas. After all, Connally helped found the thing, and he qualified as at least a prince.

Gordon Fulcher, in the July 4 issue, goes on to expound the wonders of the American Dream:

We can worship as we want to or not at all. Under the latter day court rulings, we can have access to about anything we want in the way of reading materials. Hordes can assemble and march around protesting and defaming and snarling at the very Constitution and Bill of Rights which allow them to act so atrociously.

Darned near any nitwit can run for public office and some of those in that category can even get elected.

Now, even people who are hardly allowed to go to town to buy their own clothes can go to the polls and vote.

While there are still some deplorable social ills, the people of America eat better, are better housed, and have more refrigerators, paved roads, automobiles, hair curlers, dishwashers, insurance, packaged foods, ice, drive-in restaurants, newspapers and a jillion other things than any other people.

What kind of rebuttal can you offer a man with a mentality like that? The fact that:

** Only 21 cents of every federal dollar comes from corporate taxes, and even that amount is passed on to the consumer as an operating cost, according to the Wall Street Journal.*

* While personal income has tripled in the last 20 years or so, the personal indebtedness has gone up tenfold, and that the average household spends a quarter of its income on past debt.

* At least 10 million jobs in this country (that's one out of eight) pay *below* the federal minimum wage, which means less than \$3,500 per year at full time, according to a 1969 presidential panel.

For the past few years a debate has been raging as to when fascism and its accompanying repression will arrive and when we will feel the full brunt of it. Well, here is a man calling for it.

What nitwit does he mean? Not Richard Nixon or Spiro Agnew or Preston Smith or Gus Mustcher, I'll bet. Who doesn't allow the 18-year-old to buy his own clothes? Not possible the same people who do allow him to go to Vietnam, maybe get hooked on smack, maybe shot to hell, and then when he returns maimed, shout platitudes about "our brave boys over there."

Fulcher isn't a stupid or an ignorant man; he knows what he is printing and why.

Again David Helton:

*Here's the simple country yearning for the technical fascism that Ray Bradbury prophesied in *Fahrenheit 451*, Aldous Huxley in *Brave New World*, and George Orwell in *1984*. Here is the quick glib twist of logic that transforms people who demand of their government an adherence to the Constitution and Bill of Rights into enemies of those documents. And what is disturbing, what is not laughable, is that this is done before an audience of one and a half million, many of whom can probably be counted on to agree with Fulcher. If people are*

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News

Japan: Mixed Feelings On China Vote

by Michael Berger
Dispatch News Service International

TOKYO (DNSI) — As the electric lights on the giant United Nations tallyboard went on one by one, a group of students sitting about 9,000 miles away cheered as they watched the crucial China vote via satellite television.

When the final count was announced, Peking was in the UN and these students jumped to their feet, clapping and yelling. A few minutes later, in their schoolyard, there was a joyous Chinese festival, with singing, chanting and the inevitable dragons and clang-ing brass.

These were overseas Chinese with their hearts in Peking, the sons and daughters of Chinese businessmen in Japan who do most of their trade with the mainland. They form a minority of the estimated 51,000 Chinese residents here, but most of them live in and around Yokohama, where the business group has its headquarters — and a school for the children, filled with the pictures and sayings of Chairman Mao.

The happiness of this small, isolated group of Chinese in Japan was in sharp contrast to the mixed feelings of the Japanese themselves, who felt chagrined and rather isolated for having supported a losing cause in the UN. The man most people blamed it on was the man who supported the U.S. resolution against the feelings of the majority of his party, Prime Minister Eisaku Sato.

Within minutes after the UN vote was final, Sato's foes were on the floor of the Diet, demanding his resignation, and two of the four top contenders to succeed him — all men of his party — were suggesting that it was time for a new prime minister.

Sato, seemingly unflappable, said simply that he would not resign, but it wasn't that simple. Even before the embarrassing China vote, the combined effects of the Nixon visit to Peking, the Nixon "economic shocks" and uncertainty over whether Okinawa is to be returned to Japan free of nuclear weapons had dropped Sato's popularity to an all-time low.

Two national polls showed that only 23 per cent of more than 7,000 people interviewed still supported the Sato cabinet. Nonetheless, these same people — even though an overwhelming majority favored recognition of Peking (more than 80 per cent) — still were reluctant to see Taiwan out of the UN. Most of those who favored normalizing relations with Peking, however, thought it best to do so gradually, not immediately.

This curiously mixed feeling toward China is the product of Japan's own stormy relationship with the mainland (three wars in 80 years) as well as a subservience to U.S. policy which now leaves many Japanese feeling not only isolated, but angry.

The Asahi newspaper suggested in one analysis that Japan's main problem lies not with the Nixon Doctrine, but with the "Dulles Doctrine," the theory of Communist containment which many Japanese feel they were bullied into supporting all these years.

The key incident Asahi pointed to was a statement in 1951 by Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida, who told a Diet meeting that Japan was thinking of re-establishing relations with China, and opening a trade office in Shanghai. There was a prompt reaction from John Foster Dulles, then a lawyer involved in the negotiations for the U.S.-Japan peace treaty. Dulles flew to Tokyo and told Yoshida that unless

he signed a letter of commitment to Taiwan, the pending peace treaty would not be ratified by the Senate.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official remembered painfully that had Yoshida kept his opinions to himself until after the treaty took effect in April, 1952, "We could have decided for ourselves which Chinese regime to make peace with."

Instead, the Japanese are left somewhere in the middle with their mixed feelings, further reflected in one of the polls, which asked 2,900 people to name the country they trusted most. At the top of the list was America (36.5 per cent); China was fifth (12.2 per cent) but the biggest group of all (39.4 per cent) could not think of any nation they trusted at this particular time.

Berger was the former Tokyo correspondent for the San Francisco Chronicle for four years; and a contributor to New Leader Magazine. Berger speaks and reads Japanese.

Chinese Calm With U.N. Admission

by Jonathan Unger
Dispatch News Service International

CANTON (DNSI) — Just about everyone in Canton seems to have heard on the radio or read in their papers that China won its seat in the United Nations. They are pleased, but not enthusiastic about it.

One young official said privately that the UN was only facing up to reality after excluding his country — unjustly, he said — for the last 22 years.

He added that now China is in, it will do all it can to fulfill its duties in the spirit of peaceful coexistence.

Several factory workers exclaimed China in the UN "will never behave like a super-power," which is in accord with Peking's own declarations.

The feeling here seems to be that the UN vote provided a victory for China mainly because it proved once and for all that the old U.S.-supported policy of isolating China from world affairs is bankrupt. This is proven so, most people added, by the Chinese people's many foreign friends.

A number of people interviewed were quick to express appreciation for the UN votes of friendship.

The Chinese press front-paged the list of countries which voted with China on both the UN motions, neglecting to specify which nations voted against the People's Republic — except for Japan and the United States, to avoid ill feelings among Chinese people toward the other governments that continued to support Taiwan.

Canton's person in the street intensely dislikes the U.S. government and its foreign policies, but seems to feel openly cordial toward the American people.

Time and time again, people here asked this reporter to tell the Americans that the Chinese support both present and future friendship between the two peoples.

For example, a manager at the Penhsu textile factory on the outskirts

of Canton stated that one of the bad consequences of the two decades of U.S. policy against China has been its effect upon the "naturally friendly relations between the American and Chinese peoples."

As President Nixon moves cautiously to revise the official U.S. stance, China quietly is responding in kind.

In the wake of the UN vote some of the colorful signs denouncing "U.S. imperialism" came down from the halls of the giant autumn Canton export trade fair. A diplomat coming from Peking also reports that the city's Anti-Imperialist Hospital a couple of months ago was renamed Friendship Hospital.

Every Chinese interviewed here agrees with the government's invitation to Nixon.

"It's good. Nixon will see for himself what the Chinese people under the leadership of Chairman Mao have achieved," a worker at a small enamel factory told this reporter.

When asked what will be discussed, many people reply, Vietnam and Taiwan.

They add China will never negotiate away any part of its present stand on either: Peking will unswervingly give wholehearted support to the Vietnamese revolution to the very end; and Taiwan is and always will be China's own territory.

Unger, a former Fellow of the University of California's Center for Chinese Studies, did his graduate work in Modern Chinese History. Currently visiting Canton for Dispatch News Service, he is Dispatch's regular Hong Kong correspondent.

Draft Acquittals Soar

LOS ANGELES, Cal. (AFS) — If they can't do it in the nation's most populous state, maybe they can't do it. In California, the Selective Service System issues four induction orders just to press one man into service, and nationally the results are none too good, either.

Nationwide, 25,600 registrants were ordered to report for induction in June, 1971. Only 12,500 appeared at induction centers. Of those, 8,000, including 800 volunteers, were actually inducted. Thus, more than three induction orders were issued for every man who stepped forward to serve.

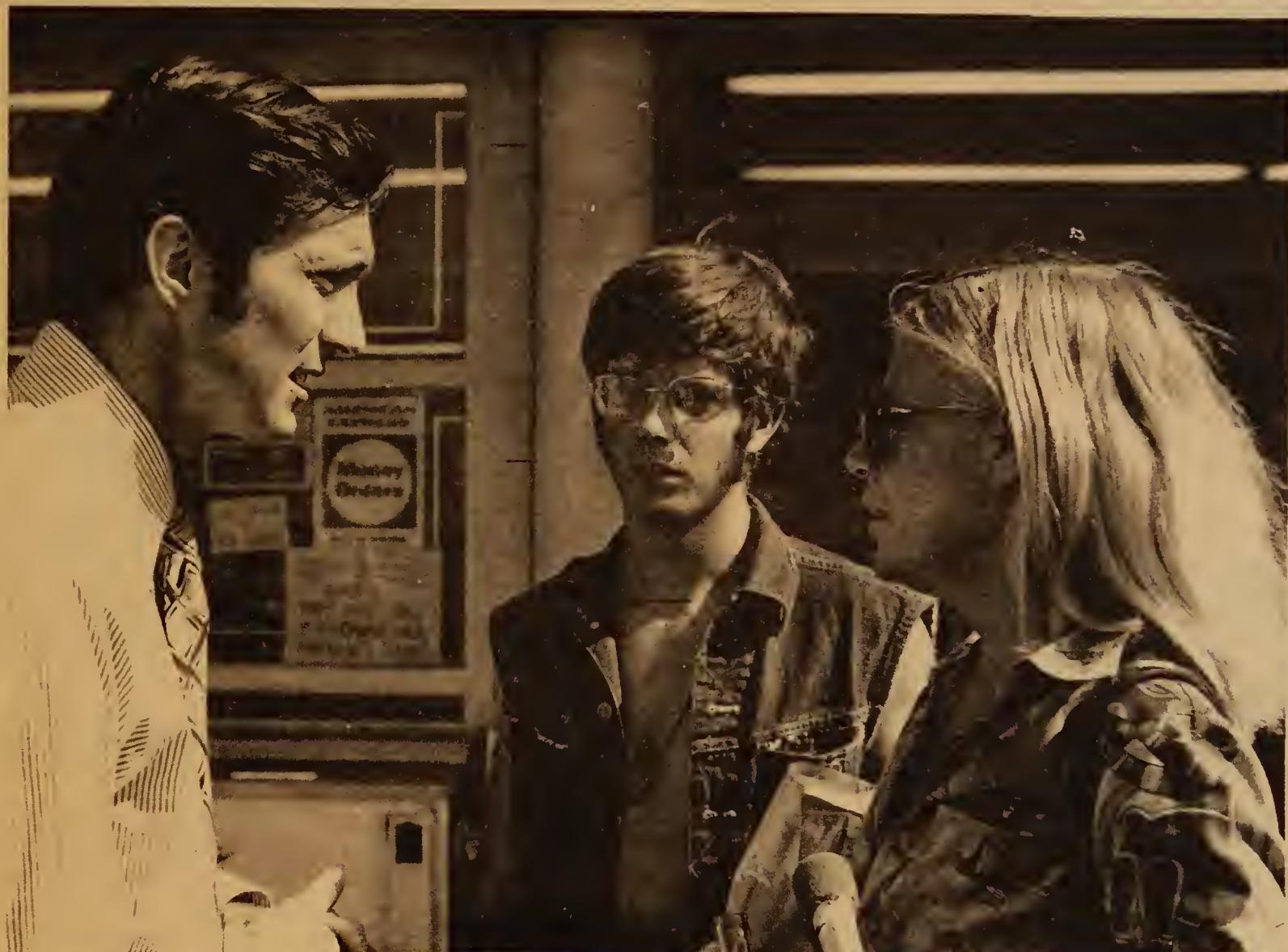
According to Marty Fassler of the National Lawyer's Guild, much of the credit for this failure belongs to panels of draft lawyers around the country. The first was founded in 1966, in Los Angeles, where lawyers — spurred by the large numbers of men unwilling to join the military, and a conservative federal judiciary — began exchanging information and tactical suggestions.

According to Fassler, they also began training draft counselors by the score, and developed techniques which proved to be so effective that they were copied throughout the country; news of the many successful defense gambits is spread quickly, and successful tactics are used widely.

Add to that the dullness — and ignorance of the law — found at many draft boards, and the result is a rate of acquittals and dismissals in draft cases much higher than for other kinds of criminal prosecutions.

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE ELECTION, NOVEMBER 20. YOUR VOTE HELPED TO PLACE ME IN A RUNOFF ELECTION FOR MAYOR OF HOUSTON. I NEED YOUR HELP AGAIN TO WIN -- PLEASE VOTE IN THE RUNOFF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7. IF YOU CAN'T GO TO THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY, YOU CAN VOTE ABSENTEE, THROUGH DECEMBER 3, ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF CITY HALL!



HOUSTON
PLEASE VOTE
TUES., DEC. 7



HOFHEINZ



**GEORGE R. BROWN
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, BROWN & ROOT INC.**

3363 Inwood
Country Club Estates (River Oaks) Houston

AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston
assessed valuation (40%) land \$23,180
assessed valuation (40%) improvements i.e. house \$20,700

TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market)..... \$43,880

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
438.80 X 1.80) \$789.84

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (100% value) .. \$109,700

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED APPRAISERS

Estimate A \$160-180,000
Estimate B \$130,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE .. \$936.00
or a TAX LOSS to City of Houston in 1970..... \$146.00

OR MORE



**BEN H. POWELL, JR.
SENIOR GROUP VICE PRESIDENT, BROWN & ROOT INC.**

3451 Del Monte
Country Club Estates Houston

AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston
account number 59-007-00-001
assessed valuation (40%) land \$18,320
assessed valuation (40%) improvements i.e. house \$12,400

TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market)..... \$30,720

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
307.20 X 1.80) \$552.96

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (i.e. 100% value) .. \$76,800

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED APPRAISERS

Estimate A \$180,000
Estimate B \$135-140,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE .. \$990.00
or a TAX LOSS to City of Houston, 1970..... \$437.00

OR MORE

Brown & Root Suspicious Suggest "F"

by John Sayer

Brown & Root, Inc., is the second largest contractor in the world, with nearly \$1.35 billion worth of building contracts in 1970.

Back in 1919, Herman Brown and Dan Root were pushing dirt and building roads in Texas. (Root and Herman Brown have since died, but brother George Brown lives on.) How, you might ask, did the company achieve the power and prestige it holds today? Well, the Brown brothers worked very hard. But key to their success was the important friendships they made — friends like Lyndon Johnson, John Connally, Albert Thomas and even some not so prominent people in places like the tax assessor's office in the City of Houston.

With friends like these one gets loads of state and federal government contracts, money to buy still more political influence and great new money saving innovations like tax breaks from our fair city. It is the latter we will discuss here; for information on Brown & Root's state and national politicking, see Space City!, April 27, 1971.

The 90 plus acres out Clinton Dr. on the Buffalo Bayou where Brown & Root is headquartered is valued by the

city at about half of what it is apparently worth.

The city puts a fair market value of \$1 to 1.5 million on this valuable site. An independent licensed commercial property appraiser says the land in that area is worth from 80¢ to \$1 per square foot. So, using a figure of 90 some acres, we are talking about a total market value of close to \$3.5 million — twice the city's fair market value. This apparent undervaluation may be costing the city as much as \$11,000 in taxes this year.

In the Nov. 18, 1971, issue of Space City!, we showed how the city was losing tax revenues because of an undervaluation of Cameron Iron Works. The Brown & Root case is not so easy to develop because the tax records are not as clear. In fact, they aren't clear at all. The land Brown & Root sits on is listed in the city tax books under many different accounts and under the names, Brown & Root, and Highland Resources, Inc. Highland Resources, Inc. is apparently some kind of front for Brown & Root. The largest single tract of land, 88.9 acres, is listed in the city block books under Highland Resources, with a value of just over \$1.1 million. The same 88.9 acres is listed in the block books under Brown & Root with no value on the

A Space City! Viewpoint

Tax Structure Needs Overhaul

Space City's recent articles on tax breaks given by the city to certain large corporations may not seem to be scathing exposés. In fact, the material may sound like a lot of mumbo-jumbo and esoteric tax talk.

But, in fact, both the city and county tax departments have come under quiet fire in the last year. Local Nader Raider Kim Hill made the newspapers some months ago with his documentation of tax breaks given by these departments to corporate property. The Houston Tribune, before it apparently joined the pro-Welch ranks, wrote up a few articles along a similar vein. And numerous citizens, particularly small property owners on the North Side, have futilely attempted to raise the issue in City Hall.

What it all comes down to, however, is that both the city and county tax departments are antiquated, understaffed and hence are losing badly needed tax revenues for local government projects. Furthermore, a brief look at some of the tax records sitting in the city and county tax departments will give you some idea of exactly how archaic the procedures are: some of those records are virtually incomprehensible. The records are available to the public, but it's a rare citizen who can make any sense of them.

Much commercial property, particularly industrial property, is carried at what appears to be an excessively low taxable value. The same goes for some, but most certainly not all, residential property. It appears that some residential property is carried at too low a valuation and some at a fair and correct valuation. These discrepancies seem to occur even within the wealthier areas of the city, like River Oaks and Tanglewood. Some of the wealthier citizens are paying their fair share, some are not. And many of the less well-to-do property owners are paying their fair share.

oot: Tax Files Favoritism"

Photos by Jeff Shapiro



land. But the improvements (buildings) values are carried under Brown & Root.

Smaller tracts surrounding the larger one are listed under Brown & Root in some cases, and Highland Resources in others. The mailing address for both are the same: P.O. Box 3, c/o George Rayburn. Rayburn is the company's tax consultant.

Another confusing aspect of the files is that value figures often have lines drawn through them with *lower* values written in their place, with no accompanying explanation. A former city tax assessor told us that values in the files have been cut many times by supervisors for no reason except favoritism toward the company. With some help, one item in the file became very clear.

The value on the new Brown & Root engineering building, set by a city appraiser after a detailed appraisal, was apparently cut by more than \$171,000 by a supervisor in the tax department. The supervisor used as a basis for the cut figures on an office building across town; he had just cut the value of this building for no apparent reason.

This story was related to a VISTA Volunteer, by a former city appraiser

who appraised both buildings. He said he appraised the Brown & Root engineering building when it was 55 per cent complete in 1968, at which time he did a careful examination and valued it at \$14 per square foot. This value never got posted on the tax roles. The supervisor, whom he says never went out to the property, and is not an appraiser, cut the value to \$12 per square foot.

The former appraiser says that his supervisor used the value of an office building at 6655 Hillcroft as a basis for the cut. This building was originally appraised at a value of \$13.60 per square foot by another city appraiser. The owner of the building reportedly asked the tax supervisor for a cut. Our former appraiser (the one who appraised the Brown & Root building) was asked to check the first estimate. He did, and said that no reduction was justified, making a notation to that effect on the report to the Board of Equalization. The supervisor cut the value anyway, to \$11.75 per square foot.

The supervisor then used *this* square foot value as a basis of comparison to cut the value on the Brown & Root engineering building. The former appraiser says that not only were the cuts on the Hillcroft build-

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ecture erhauling

Some have dismissed our complaints about undervaluation and unfair taxation by saying that nearly *all* property is undervalued, that no one's getting a tax break because *everyone* is. Our investigations suggest that this is not true. Many small property owners in particular are groaning under a too heavy tax burden. But even if it *were* true, that most property is undervalued, we believe this is unfair to the city as a whole. The city, county and school districts need tax revenues badly, and a good deal of potential revenue is apparently being lost because of inefficiency and possible corruption in the tax departments.

The city recently raised property taxes. We are already burdened by heavy sales taxes. If residential and commercial property were appraised and taxed fairly and equally, perhaps a property tax increase would not have been necessary.

Even if you do not own property within Houston and Harris County, you are suffering from the effects of this inequitable tax structure. If the city and county are losing money, you are losing too, through the low quality of many city services and projects.

Our research suggests that the city and county tax departments need complete overhauling. A major effect must be put forth to revalue all commercial and residential property in Houston and Harris County. Taxpayers must be informed of their rights of appeal to the Board of Equalization. Perhaps an independent and apolitical appraisal firm should be called in to initiate the re-appraisal procedures.

All this will cost money, of course. Taxpayer's money. But in the long run, we think the initial outlay will more than pay for itself, through a just and up-to-date taxation system.



More pictures on page 20

HARRY G. AUSTIN
SENIOR GROUP VICE PRESIDENT, BROWN & ROOT INC.

267 Pine Hollow
Pine Hollow Houston

AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston
account number 86-173-00-004

assessed valuation (40%) land \$5,140
assessed valuation (40%) improvements i.e. house \$7,860

TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market) \$13,000

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
130.0 X 1.80) \$234.00

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (i.e. 100% value) \$32,500

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED
APPRASERS

Estimate A \$75-80,000

Estimate B \$78,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE, \$540.00
or a TAX LOSS to the City of Houston, 1970 \$306.00

OR MORE

J. FOSTER PARKER
SENIOR GROUP VICE PRESIDENT, BROWN & ROOT INC.

414 Shadywood
Tanglewood Houston

AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston

account number 128-156-24-009

assessed valuation (40%) land \$8,670

assessed valuation (40%) improvements i.e. house \$23,170

TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market) \$31,840

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
318.40 X 1.80) \$573.12

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (i.e. 100% value) \$79,000

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED
APPRASERS

Estimate A \$210,000

Estimate B \$115,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE, \$828.00
or a TAX LOSS to the City of Houston, 1970 \$255.00

OR MORE

food

The Whole You

by Saundra Wrye

Buckwheat is buckwheat. There is nothing else that compares with its earthy alkaline flavor, and nothing that gives you such a fine contracted energetic feeling. Perhaps that feeling comes from the enormous quantities of Vitamins B2 and E found in buckwheat. Because it grows in a cold climate, it seems logical that those who live there would eat it to keep warm. Even if that doesn't sound logical, you try eating it on a cold day — it's very warming and a high quality meat substitute that doesn't bring you down.

Strictly speaking, buckwheat is not a cereal, but it is very similar to them and can be eaten as a main food. The buckwheat plant is so hardy and impervious to blight that it is almost never sprayed. It is very good in cold climates or even cool days in Texas; keeps you warm! The poorest peasants in Russia often have a diet consisting primarily of buckwheat and cabbage, with onions and rye if they are lucky; and millet and wheat if they are supremely fortunate!

Michel Abehsara tells a story about when the Russian handball team came to Paris with the firm intention of winning the title. As soon as they arrived they went to a restaurant and asked for buckwheat. The restaurant had no buckwheat. So they went to other restaurants and again were told there was no buckwheat. Their coach did not hesitate; he simply decided that he and his comrades should fly back to Moscow, and that's exactly what they did. How could a Russian sportsman possibly play without his precious kasha?

Buckwheat is to Russians what rice is to Japanese. Called "kasha" by American Jews, it is still cooked in hot knishes sold on the lower East Side of New York City. But basically kasha is white buckwheat groats that have been evenly roasted, then cooked with or without vegetables — you can buy buckwheat either roasted or unroasted — some prefer to roast the hardy little seeds themselves. They say it has a fresher roasted flavor. Either variety you use, do try it!

BASIC BUCKWHEAT GROATS

1 cup white or roasted buckwheat groats
2 cups boiling water
1/4 teaspoon seasalt
1 teaspoon oil

Saute groats in oil 5 minutes, stirring constantly (unnecessary for roasted groats). Add salt & boiling water, cover, lower flame, & simmer for 10 minutes or until all water is absorbed.

Serve mixed with sauteed onions or the following onion sauce:

ONIONSAUCE
1-2 medium onions (sliced thin)
2 Tablespoons oil
2 Tablespoons flour (wholewheat, wholewheat pastry or unbleached white).
1 cup water
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons Tamari soy sauce

Heat oil. Saute onions til golden. Blend in flour and continue to toast until there is a nutty fragrance. Let cool slightly. Add cold water gradually and stir constantly. Lower flame and simmer 10 minutes. Add salt and cook five minutes. Add Tamari soy sauce and simmer a few minutes longer. Also delicious with wholewheat or buckwheat noodles.

HOMEMADE BUCKWHEAT NOODLES

1/2 pound freshly ground buckwheat flour
1/2 pound freshly ground wholewheat flour (made from hard winter wheat)
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, optional
a little spring water

Mix all ingredients and knead over and over until dough is smooth and shiny . . . about 20 minutes. Roll out to about one tenth of an inch in thickness, then cover lightly with flour, and roll up the dough. Slice as thin as possible. Dry by hanging noodles over coat hangers or in any convenient place. To cook, drop into boiling salted water and bring to a boil, cooking until done. They are better if they don't cook til they're mushy — *al dente*, the Italians call it: just right. Drain and separate by pouring cold water over them and drain in a colander. To reheat, simply pour boiling water over them, and serve.

If you've never eaten buckwheat croquettes, you're in for a delightful surprise, as most of the people in our cooking classes discovered . . . they are a bit like little sausages, very tasty for breakfast.

BUCKWHEAT CROQUETTES

Prepare the Basic Buckwheat Groats. One cup of groats makes quite a few croquettes, so if there are just two of you, you might cut the recipe in half. Add to it:

2 onions, minced
1 carrot, grated or diced
5 leaves of cabbage, shredded
1/4 green bell pepper, minced, optional
pinch of salt
1 teaspoon oil

Saute vegetables in order given, adding a pinch of salt after all have been added. Continue sauteeing until they are as done as you like. Mix in with the buckwheat, add enough wholewheat flour and a few sprinklings of water to make the dough the consistency which will allow you to roll small balls or flat patties that will hold together. Roll each ball or patty in wholewheat flour and pan fry in 1/4 inch hot oil or deep fry until outside is crisp. They cook very quickly, so don't let them burn!

* * * *

One of the best buckwheat recipes ever comes from *Zen Macrobiotic Cooking*. Try it on a cool Sunday evening . . .

KASHA WITH VEGETABLE GRAVY

2 cups buckwheat groats
1 cup onions, minced
1 cup cabbage, shredded
1/2 cup carrots, diced
7 cups water
2 Tablespoons tamari soy sauce
1 Tablespoon sesame tahini
2 Tablespoons sesame oil

Saute the groats in one Tablespoon oil, stirring constantly, until they are browned and nutty. (If you are using already roasted groats, this is unnecessary.) Cool bottom of pan, add five cups water and salt and bring to a boil. Lower flame, cover and simmer for just five minutes; turn off flame. In a skillet, heat one Tablespoon oil. Saute in it the onions, cabbage, and carrots. In a deep saucepan, dry-toast the wholewheat flour lightly, stirring constantly. Cool bottom of pan and add two cups water. Bring to a boil and then add the tamari, tahini and sauteed vegetables, stirring constantly.

When mixture begins to thicken, turn down flame, cook for just 15 minutes and turn off flame. Prepare casserole dish by greasing lightly with sesame or other oil and heating. Pour kasha into casserole, and then pour the gravy over it and bake at 300 degrees for 1/2 hour.

* * * *

BUCKWHEAT VARIATION

* Use half buckwheat, half wholewheat flour when doing tempura'd vegetables. Delicous!

* For buckwheat bread, use 1/4-1/3 buckwheat flour, 1/4 corn meal and the rest wholewheat flour. Or if you're really convinced about the taste of buckwheat, try half-and-half wholewheat and buckwheat. Add a generous handful of raisins . . . they balance the buckwheat and make you smile.

* Use the buckwheat croquette recipe to stuff little pieces of your favorite wholewheat pie dough and deep fry the little pies in oil . . . really fine.

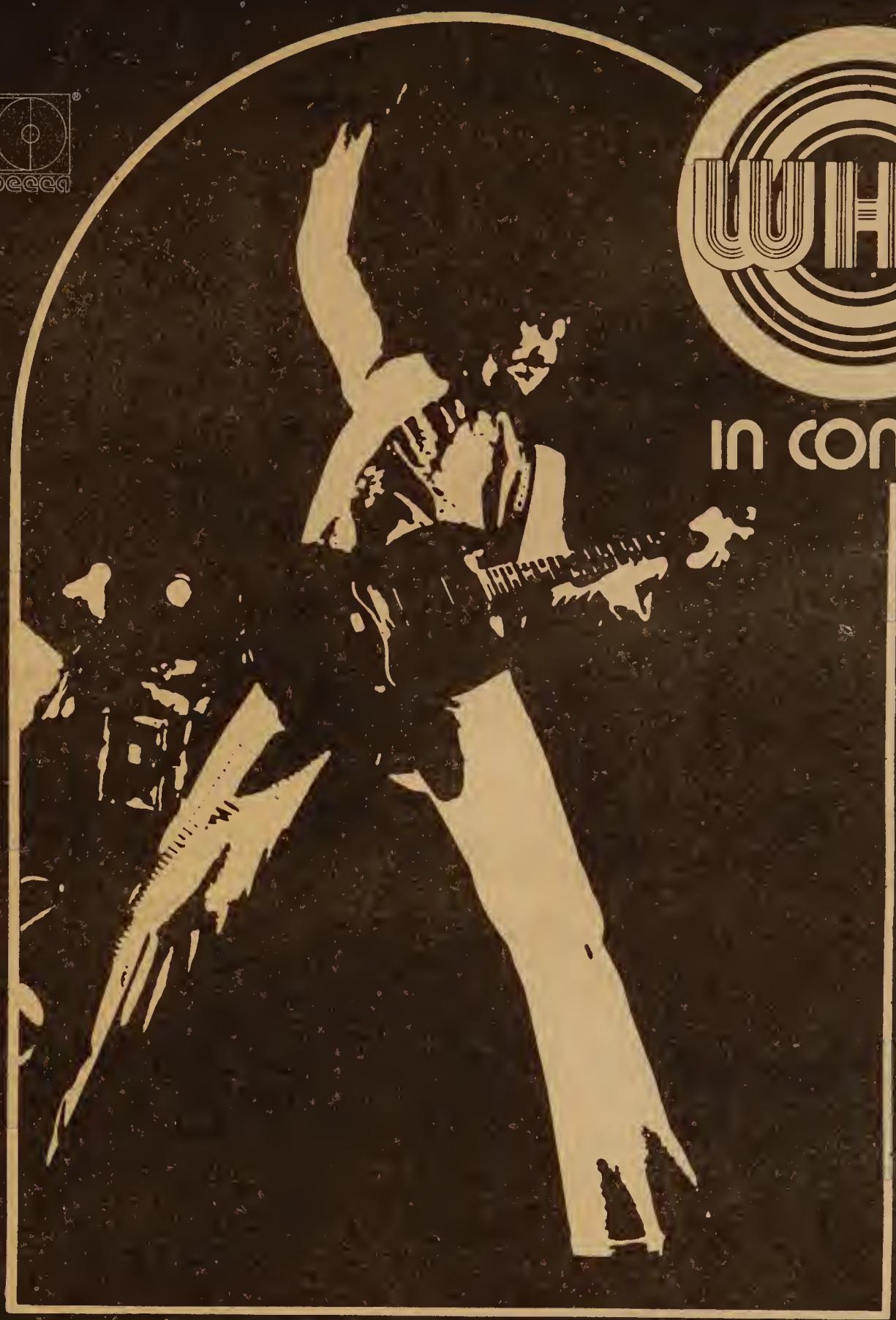
* If you have leftover cooked buckwheat, fry it in a tiny bit of oil as you would for fried rice. Pour a creamy sauce over it . . .

* * * *

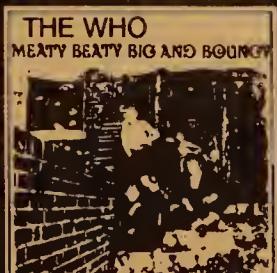
As this series ends, we ask that the readers of The Whole You please contribute their ideas about food and/or recipes for the forthcoming articles on cooking. If there is a specific food you'd like to see discussed here, or a style of cooking explored, please write to Saundra, 1/2 Space City! or call 862-3980 or come by TAO WHOLE FOODS, 15 Waugh drive. We'd really like to hear your words and see your faces . . .



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People Beaten

cont. from 3

Later that afternoon in the same area Albert Blaine Davis and Nelson Miller were involved in a confrontation with Officers C.R. Herman and A.M. Baimonte and Davis was later charged with two counts of aggravated assault on a police officer.

Officers Herman and Baimonte were in the 4200 block of Kewanee looking for a pistol Officer Herman had lost the night before in an incident involving James Oiler and Roger Edwards.

While searching for the gun, an unidentified man (who witnesses reported to Space City! as the constable on horseback who was involved in a scrape earlier that morning) approached one of the policemen and told of being attacked by a youth, later identified as Albert Blaine Davis, 19, of 4122 Alvin.

Officer Baimonte claims that he went up to Davis and requested that he identify himself. Davis refused and became abusive, according to the policeman.

An angry crowd of 100 people gathered around Davis and the two officers. The officers claim Davis struck Baimonte across the neck and struggled with both of them. During the melee Davis was shot once in the side and Nelson was injured slightly.

Police accounts vary as to who actually shot the two youths. Baimonte said an unidentified youth grabbed the gun away from him and tried to run away, at which point Baimonte grabbed the pistol back and it fired as he turned to help handcuff Davis.

Herman said Davis was the youth who grabbed the gun just before it fired.

Two youths injured, one charged with 2 counts of aggravated assault on a police officer.

On Tuesday, Nov. 23, Richard Rincon, 45, and Louis Rincon, 36, were arrested for aggravated assault on a police officer by Officers J.M. Hinton and H.L. Kuykendall.

Officers Hinton and Kuykendall claim they followed Richard Rincon to his house after noticing his car was weaving. The officers said Richard stopped at 7719 Canal and ran toward the house.

Hinton said he struggled with Richard at the gate and then they fell onto the porch. As they were struggling, two women and a man ran onto the porch from the house and joined the struggle, according to Hinton.

The officers said Richard struck Hinton and Louis struck Hinton in the cheek. Hinton said he ran from the porch, leaving Kuykendall with the struggling family, and put out an "assist to officer" call. He further claims that he waved down a passing patrol car and they assisted in the arrest of the two brothers.

The Rincon family's version of the arrests differ from that of the police. Eleanor Rincon, Richard's wife, and Juanita Rincon, 68, Richard's mother, claim that they were on the porch waiting for Richard to return when Richard drove up to the house, and was followed by an officer who struck Richard from behind as he was walking up to the porch.

The women claim the officers began to shove them at which point Louis Rincon ran to the porch. Juanita Rincon said Louis was merely trying to protect her when the officers struck him. They also said Richard never struck either officer; that he was attempting to protect himself by covering his face and head with his hands.

The official police version is somewhat garbled.

The record shows no call to assist an officer. Hinton later told a Chronicle reporter that he "did not get to make" the assist call because he saw the other patrol car approaching and he waved them down. He also claimed the women were not on the porch when he arrived.

Kuykendall said he didn't know the whereabouts of Hinton when the second patrol car arrived.

Officers R.L. Starbuck and W.L. Fielder reported they were cruising in their car when they heard a disturbance and drove to it. They said they were not flagged down by Hinton. They said they "saw two policemen struggling with two women and two men when they drove up."

State Representative Lauro Cruz has asked Governor Preston Smith to investigate the incident. "It is the epitome of disgust when the Police Department has to beat up on a 68-year old grandmother and assault a man in his own yard.

"If the Police Department can explain to me why force was used with this old lady, it should be forthcoming immediately," he said.

Two men charged with aggravated assault, an entire family beaten, including a 68-year-old grandmother.

On Thursday, Nov. 25, Daniel Moreno was killed by police answering a call about a suspicious man.

Officers W.D. Simmons and F.C. Dodd fatally shot Daniel Moreno, 27, of 3724 Rupert, who they say drew a pistol on them as they attempted to question him.

The officers were called to the 5100 block of Dabney by Rev. Ivan Turic, 30, of St. Francis Assissi Church, to investigate a suspicious man watching children from the bushes in front of the church.

The officers said they drove alongside Moreno as he drew what appeared to be a .45 caliber pistol. They said they shouted for him to drop the weapon, but he leveled the gun at them.

Dodd said he fired one shot at him and Simmons fired two shots at Moreno because he was still holding the gun on them.

Witnesses substantiate the fact that Moreno was holding a gun on the officers; it was a B.B. gun. Two witnesses said, however, that Moreno dropped the gun before the final two shots were fired.

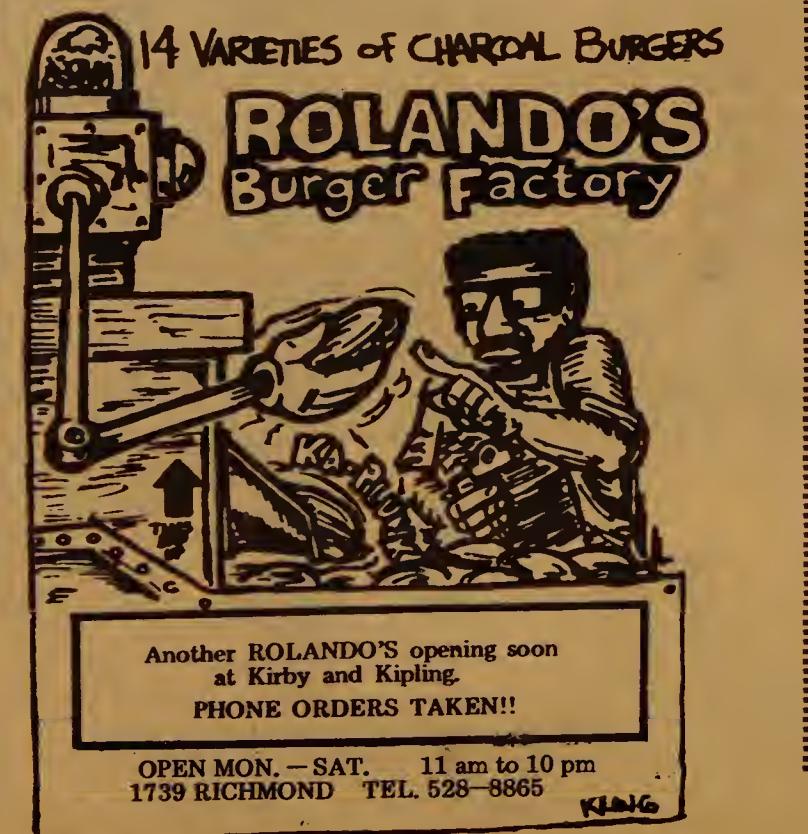
"The man dropped the gun and staggered towards the police car and then several more shots were fired," said James Prichard, 5818 Hickman.

It has not been determined which officer's shot killed Moreno.

As in all cases involving the use of excessive force or police brutality, it's the Man's word against the word of the victim. The police in all of the above cases claim they were merely defending themselves against assault.

Assistant District Attorney Bob Bennet, remarked during the Bartee Haile trial (arising out of the Dowling Street incident which left Carl Hampton, chairman of Peoples Party II dead) that "You've got to have hard aggressive individuals in the police department. It takes a special kind of individual, a special kind of man to devote his life to this."

The members of the Houston Police Department are the kind of men that Herman Short can be proud of. They are, to say the least, hard, aggressive and devoted. Devoted to a rigid policy of repression and violence against those they consider a threat.



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Reviews

Platter Chatter

Best news I've heard in a long time department:

Guy Clark, habitue' of the Houston folk scene for so many years passed thru town last week on his way to Nashville. He has a job as a staff writer for RCA and will soon be huddling with none other than Chet Atkins while they map out plans for his first album. A fine opportunity for a man whose voice deserves to be heard. All the best of luck.

This week I am inaugurating an idea I have had for awhile; the guest review. Mike Fletcher has reviewed John Prine and Charles John Quarto for me. Mike is a bluesman who plays, collects, tracks down, and records the blues wherever they are to be found. He knows more about blues than I and I hope to use his talents more often. I am also looking for someone to help with Jazz and Soul reviews. If there is anyone interested, please contact me at Space City! or at 666-7624.

* * * * *

Quicksilver * * * Quicksilver Messenger Service * * * Capitol * * * SI 19m 29s S2 19m 45s

Quicksilver has come a long way. Unfortunately, their most recent direction has been down. They have been around since late '65, beginning in the SF frenzy of acid and love. Their 1st record came into the shops in mid-'67 and knocked everyone down. They had intense, mystic jams and strange lyrics. A searing guitar in the hands of John Cipollina powered them to further fame with a solid 2nd album, but then QMS began to tamper with success. At first only expanding to include Nicky Hopkins on keyboards, later to putting Dino Valenti on vocals and out front and finally reaching their current lineup with Valenti taking lead and songwriting chores from the departed and disgraced Cipollina.

In the process their sound has lost its mystery, the band has surrendered its creative vitality and retreated into a supporting position. I mean at first they were just four Virgos jamming lovely patterns into the air. Then along came a Gemini and then later Dino and you can imagine the karmatic repercussions which followed.

So, Valenti has a nice voice, much stage presence and sexual allure oozes from his bod, but he cannot replace David Frieberg and John Cipollina. He comes across as a hip Tom Jones trying to sing love tunes in front of an acid rock band. There are eight cuts of this tiring stuff, just like their last two before this. Get *Happy Trails* or their last album (black cover with Quicksilver in red) to see what heights they once attained. 73

Electric Warrior * * * T-Rex * * * Reprise * * * SI 19ms S2 20m 02s. Marc Bolan is English and was one half of Tyrannosaurus Rex. In the Encyclopedia of Rock, Lillian Roxon says,

"TR is the underground group of 1968 England. Bolan, who writes the songs, sings a high-pitched vibrato that rattles and wails like a witch doctor in a jungle horror movie. He looks innocent, sings evil."

Electric Warrior features a true dynamite song, "Bang a Gong (Get in On)," a breathless quality to the vocals, acid-skiffle beat and a kind of English Dr. John sound. Then don't take my word for it. Witness "Mambo Sun"

"Beneath the bebop moon

I want to croon with you

Beneath the Mambo Sun

I got to be the one with you

My life's a shadowless horse

If I can't get across to you

In the alligator rain

My hearts all pain for you

Girl you're good

And I've got wild knees for you

On a mountain range

I'm Dr. Strange for you"

and so forth.

"Jeepster" ends with these words: "I'm gonna suck you." Other titles include "Cosmic Dancer" "Monolith" "Lean Woman Blues" and "Planet Queen." Strange melodies, some new directions. An album that must be gotten into, but when you get there it amply rewards you. A slight repetitiveness to the riffs is all that keeps this from being a real blockbuster. 91

Rudy the Fifth * * * Rick Nelson and the Stone Canyon Band * * * Decca * * * SI 20m 26s S2 19m 22s

Rick has been with us for 12 years now and although he appealed to an audience we are currently loath to recall, I remember his songs were always catchy and never in the Fabian, Paul Anka, Neil Sedaka, Frankie Avalon tradition. Rick has been plugging away all along, never abandoning music, although TV and films must provide most of his extensive bread. He has been drifting toward the country lately and this record shows his ease with relaxed numbers ("Just Like a Woman," "Love Minus Zero/No Limit"), "Honky-Tonk Woman" and Leonard Lee's "Feel So Good."

The tone is a little too wholesome for my taste, with love, life and the lord and clapping choruses getting in the way of Rick's pleasant vocals and tidy back-up by Tom Brumley, Randy Meisner (Poco-ex) Allen Kemp and Patrick Shanahan.

Altogether very tasteful, Rick has a love of music that's evident by this album's presence. The two interludes of "Love Song for Kristin" are fascinating Classical Strolls. Forget Ozzie and Harriet, "Rio Bravo" and "Poor Little Fool" — Rick Nelson can do the job. 88

People Like Us * * * Mama's and the Papas * * * ABC Dunhill * * * SI 17m 55s S2 18m 28s

None did really sensational naked in show biz so the M & P's are bombarding us with some more of their wearisome Peter Paul and Mary imitations. This bunch had a few fine songs but have yet to come up to their potential exemplified on "Monday, Monday" and "California Dreaming".

They say the M&P's have such great harmony, yet I have heard dozens of fine soul groups which could sing them back to the West Indies. Now that John has

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his own songs, Michelle has a connection with Dennis Hopper and Cass is a big time talk-show host, you'd think they would peddle their dreary ballads elsewhere.

For fans, I guess you'll dig all this. I consider it shallow folk-rock muzak and creatively paralyzing. 60

*Synergy *** Glass Harp *** Decca *** S1 18m 23s S2 15m 52s*

Phil Keaggy, John Sperra and Don Pecchio comprise Glass Harp. These three kick up a storm playing a wide range of hard pushin' rock with both acoustic and electric guitars. They have a Moody Blues type sound yet without the frills. Just guitar, bass and drums but with lots of phasing, feedback, echo chamber and wa-wah.

Glass Harp has a nice way of easing into a frenzy just when you lay your head back and close your eyes. The lyrics are printed, however they are quite common; embracing children of the Universe, Jesus, love, new days and The Answer. The poetry is thin but fortunately their original music overrides this difficulty. 86

*Frisco Mabeljoy *** Mickey Newbury *** Elektra *** S1 19m 58s S2 18m 43s*

Elektra did Mickey Newbury up right with his initial album for them after he switched labels earlier this year. The album is very nicely packaged and includes lyrics as well as a handsome picture. They are also promoting this well. For his part, Mickey presented them with a many-faceted album which should sell in country markets as well as in folk and folk-rock circles.

Very rich sound as most of Nashville pitched in to help. Session men include Wayne Moss, Charlie McCoy, Bobby Thompson and Dennis Linds with the Nashphilharmonic. The resultant vibrations are somewhat crowded at times, though the symphonic effect suits Mickey's mellow tenor. A total sound record with an enveloping presence. Nice job overall with "Mobile Blue" and "The Future's Not What it Used to Be" — splendid songs. The single lifted from this was "American Trilogy," an unfortunate choice. No one needs another arrangement of "Dixie" — not now nor ever. Fine effort from a topflight writer. 89

*The Low spark of high heeled boys *** Traffic *** Island Records (distributed by Capitol) S1 21m 26s S2 19m 38s*

"Here, I'd like you to hear a new record I got."

"Put it on."

Forty minutes later . . .

"What was that? And where am I?"

That was a session with Traffic, their latest effort with all new tunes from the same septet who released "Live at the Canteen," and recently toured. More magic from them with just enough haunting Steve Winwood vocals to allow the instruments time to chart new paths in melody. Like all their work this is excellent. 95 from a group with the most hypnotic flow in rock.

— John M. Lomax

* * * * *

*John Prine *** Atlantic *** SD 8296*

The hype on the back of John Prine's LP is written by Kris Kristofferson . . . We learn that John has busted the folk joints in at least the area between Chicago and New York for years . . . I can personally vouch for any folk-singer that has enough confidence in himself to run the road of endless two-bit coffee houses. It is not at all the same scene as rock music . . . folk music just doesn't pay very much, unless you're someone like Bob Dylan (and the comparison is begrudgingly made in the liner notes).

Prine's voice is indeed similar to *Freewheelin'* Dylan's at various points; but that is where the comparison ends. All of his songs have a strong country-western flavor, complete with pedal-steel. "Far From Me" is a good example of a song which digs at the roots of country music, employing Jimmie Rodgers-derived chordal changes. Some of Prine's songs — such as "Hello in There" — depict sad Edgar Lee Masters-style epitaphs of rural people growing old into roles which America has thrust upon them.

A sheet of enclosed lyrics provides the listener a closer look at what Prine says (can you imagine what Dylan's records would have been with enclosed lyrics?).

"There were spaces between Donald and whatever he said
Strangers had forced him to live inside his head"
(*"Donald and Lydia"*)

"The sky is black and still now
On the hill where angels sing
Aint it funny how an old broken bottle
Looks just like a broken ring . . ."
(*"Far From Me"*)

John Prine is of a blooming school of American folk-singers whose music is country-derived, but whose lyrics jump the bounds of tradition to deal with more timely conflicts such as the Vietnamese war ("Your Flag decal won't get you into heaven anymore"). Paul Siebel fans will probably appreciate this record . . . and become John Prine fans as well.

*Charles John Quarto *** Atlantic SD 8294*

Charles John Quarto is a poet. It's about time that some of our fine young poets were on wax. *The Last Poets* proved that poets could indeed compete on the "market," and it appears that Atlantic has chosen to take a chance in an unfathomable market.

I liked some of his poems; I didn't like some others. Some, however, such as "The Day of the Dust and Dirt," are simply hair-raising in their intensity. "Day of the Dust and Dirt" is a windshield drive through America with all the sights by the roadsides from the "bad coffee and six-pack cops" of Ohio to the Orange Blossom Honey of San Francisco. To the rhythm of tires hitting asphalt cracks, the poet builds the pace up to a frantic climax, tearfully screaming that it took him years to write!

There are 21 poems in all, counting two songs with guitar. The only major shortcoming of the record is that it does not provide the listener with printed copies of the poems. Perhaps Quarto plans to publish the poems separately, at separate prices . . . should it be condemned?

Poets don't generally ask for very much (in comparison to musicians), and they don't usually get very much. Maybe, if they're lucky, they might publish at least one thin booklet of their favorites. Small reward for such hard work. This album of Charles John Quarto, poet, is a step in the right direction for Atlantic.

— Mike Fletcher

SPACE CITY! / PAGE 18

Movies:

Cisco Pike

*CISCO PIKE *** Kris Kristofferson, Karen Black, Gene Hackman, Viva, Hugh Romney, Doug Sahm & Sir Douglas Quintet, Joy Bang and others. *** Written and directed by Bill L. Noxton *** With four new songs from Kris. R rating.*

Or how a down and out rock n' roller spends the weekend in LA. Cisco ain't doin' so well now after being a star a few short years back. He's been dealing a little weed but got busted twice, so he quit, much to the delight of his chick, played by Karen Black. Till the narc who busts him tells him to get rid of 100 kilos (220 pounds) over the weekend. Just bring him 10 G's Monday morning; keep the rest and I'll get you out of your last bust.

What he does, how he does it and who follows him as he tries to pull it off without telling his chick. He starts out pricing his keep at \$200 per showing, a true larcenous intention and a possible \$10,000 profit. Along the way there is a jive-talking encounter with Sir Doug and his group, a sex session with Viva and her sidekick,

Joy Bang. Unfortunately, this was shortened to seven seconds due to the circumstances of two girls, one boy and complicated by Viva's being seven and one half months pregnant. Mr. Hog Farm, Hugh Romney, appears with teeth, but with sad gaps in judgement. Gene Hackman had me believing he was a crooked narc, but Karen Black seemed to be thinking of Jack Nicholson and her last movie.

Pretty fair flick. The camera work is solid; not flashy but it shows LA well. The long shots in the morning depict a smog problem in acute stages. At first I thought the color in the print was bad but then it became clear that the light was poor due to a continuous haze dulling out all color. Kris's songs are nice and he comes across quite well. A snazzy grin and an ease in front of the camera reminiscent of Jon Voight. He also looks and walks kind of like Townes Van Zandt and talks like Guy Clark but that's another story.

The following are dialogue hi-lights:

"Bust me or leave me alone."

"Ain't fun no more."

"It's me or dealing man."

"It ain't your baby they is after, it's your soul."

"You do things and one day you wonder why you're doing this" (after 17 years as a narc).

For voyeurs, only a few good bare breast shots with Karen and the tiny vignette with Kris, Viva and Joy Bang, but that happens pretty fast. For anyone else it's a nice enough two hours. Viva and Joy are outta site. There is one killing, no fist fights, one heroin overdose. That about sums it up.

— John M. Lomax



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Texas Star

cont. from 9

constantly told that they may measure the worth of their nation in terms of automobiles, dishwashers and pre-packaged foods, not only will they be less able to recognize the false values implicit in those things but it becomes that much harder for others to show them that those things are actual curses, when you consider air pollution, water pollution and poisonous additives. And so on.

However, what I find more objectionable, more obscene than any other portion of the magazine is the humor column. The staff humorist, Wick Fowler, is a former war correspondent, unsuccessful Austin City Council candidate and a dethroned chili king. His lame humor follows the official line. He refers to Chairman Mao as "Mousy Tongue." He writes:

Why is it judge that police are required to appraise a criminal of his constitutional rights before questioning him, but the criminal is not required to appraise his victim of his rights before committing the crime? Talk about discrimination!

ISN'T IT shameful that the jail and prison inmates are stealing the publicity of militant students with their riots. Militants sit in front of bars and prisoners sit behind bars while writing their scripts.

This paragraph is dedicated to the Women's Liberation campaign for equal rights – not equal rights. Women can win rights.

or

Judging from the comments one hears, the biggest concern in this nation today is whether to go mini, midi, and maxi. Those who cannot make up their minds should go dressed.

or

The three R's are now known as Reading, Rioting, and 'Rithmetic. Mary's little lamb no longer follows her to school. Lambs cannot be bused, according to HEW.

or

Yep, Texas has changed a great deal over the years. Trouble is, the younger generation wants to change it even more. Into what? Nobody knows, not even the youngsters.

* * *

or

Protest demonstrations have proved one thing sure about the New Left. It is never Right. Texas would be happy to send one Texas Ranger to Washington whenever there is one riot.

* * *

or

Although it is booming as a new big oil state, Alaska cannot match Texas oil history. They just can't produce "hot oil" in a frigid state. Eskimos, you know, are attempting to halt the laying of oil pipelines across land they claim as their own. They do not realize that the oil boom will permit them to finance high-rise igloos.

That old saying that April showers bring May flowers has a new touch nowadays: April fauna brings Mayjuana.

Looking back, we find that the official line is strong on law'n'order, opposition to women's rights, opposition to integration, fear of change, threat of coercion, support for the corporate coffers of the oil companies over the Eskimos, stupidity on the subject of drugs plus a total disregard for the intelligence of the readers to whom the line is delivered.

There is little else between the front and back cover save for a cooking column, a question and answer column and a short piece on Texas history.

Most conspicuously, the official word is that Texans are white. All of the articles are about decent, god-fearin', non-beboppin', upwardly mobile white folks. The exceptions are black football players, such as Jerry LeVias, Houston Oiler receiver and Bob Hayes of the Dallas Cowboys. LeVias makes speeches at luncheons and doesn't believe in "can't." Hayes is riding tall in the saddle with the Cowboys. There's no indication of indigration nor appreciation of their having been chosen as the Star's token niggers.

The Texas Star in its masquerade as responsible journalism, its blatant appeal and adherence to the false values implicit in our society is inherently dangerous.

It is the duty of the readers of the supplement, to whom the line is being delivered, to demand that the publishers of the Texas Star cease to be their own self-serving sources of news and that the Star refrain from publishing the lies that are useful to those who are in power and wish to stay there.

HEIGHTS

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Coliseum
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L. E. MINOR
SENIOR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, BROWN & ROOT INC.
5418 Tupper Lake
Tanglewood Houston

AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston
account number 86-100-11-002
assessed valuation (40%) - land \$8,540
assessed valuation (40%) - improvements, i.e. house \$16,320
TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market) \$24,860

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
248.60 X 1.80) \$447.48

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (i.e. 100% value) \$62,150

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED APPRAISERS
Estimate A \$115,000
Estimate B \$80,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE \$576.00
or a TAX LOSS to City of Houston, 1970 \$128.00
OR MORE

HERBERT J. FRENSLEY
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BROWN & ROOT
2001 Maconda
Royden Oaks Houston

AD VA! OREM TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1970, Tax Dept., City of Houston
account number 79-053-00-014
assessed valuation (40%) - land \$4,810
assessed valuation (40%) - buildings, i.e. house \$9,460
TOTAL assessed valuation (40% of market) \$14,270

TAX BILL, City of Houston, 1970
(rate \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation i.e.
142.70X.80) \$256.86

EQUIVALENT MARKET VALUE, City of Houston (i.e. 100% value) \$35,675

ESTIMATES OF MARKET VALUE BY INDEPENDENT LICENSED APPRAISERS
Estimate A \$75-80,000
Estimate B \$76,000

ESTIMATED TAXES USING LOWEST INDEPENDENT ESTIMATE \$540
or a TAX LOSS to the city of Houston, 1970 \$284
OR MORE

THE BEATLES!



ADMISSION
\$2



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"YELLOW SUBMARINE" "LET IT BE"

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Saturday & Sunday —
Continuous from 1:30 pm

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75 YEARS IN PRISON

I have been sentenced to 75 years in prison for a crime I did not commit. I desperately need help to appeal. Any and all donations will be appreciated. I will answer all inquiries.

Thank you,

Tommy Marshburn
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MUSIC

CONCERTS

OONOAN — Golden Star Production Sun, Dec 5, 8 pm. \$3.50-\$4.50-\$6.50 Houston Coliseum.

SAVOY BROWN — plus Atomic Rooster & Chicken Shack. Presented by 12th St. Prod & K-101. Dec 8, 8 pm, \$3-4-5. Sam Houston Coliseum.

PAUL WINTER CONSORT — "20th Century model of an English Renaissance consort." Blend of rock, folk, jazz, & classical. UH Program Council. Dec 3 8 pm. UH student \$2, other student \$2.50, public \$3.50. Houston Room, UH Univ Center

SERGIO MENOES & BRASIL '77 — Showcase Int'l prod. Sat, Dec 4, 8:30 pm. \$2-4-5-6.

CLUBS

THE GREEN APPLE — Denim, Devils Wall, Thu Dec 2, 8 to 2. 691-1077

UH COFFEEHOUSE — Mance Lipscomb, good blues UH campus in the UH University Center. 748-6600. A

TV

Thu, Dec 2 —

7:00 pm — BILLY GRAHAM: God, who engages in Interstate commerce, is subject to FCC regulations and is therefore powerless to stop Billy (who's in with Nixon) Ch 13

Fri, Dec 3 —

7:00 pm — TROUBLE IN TEXAS (1937) Tex Ritter and Rita Hayworth. Ch 26

10:30 pm — POSSESSED, Joan Crawford. Sordid. Ch 11

12:40 am — SANDOKAN FIGHTS BACK, don't know who Sandokan is but he sounds like a heavy dude. Ch 11

Sat, Dec 4 —

11:30 am — FOOTBALL! Penn State vs Tennessee. Student athletes working their way through school the hard way (and making a little bread for the advertisers and the networks while they're at it). Good clean fun. Ch 13

1:00 pm — VIVA VILLA! Today's BEST BET, stars Wallace Berry and Leo Carrillo in the story of the bandit-revolutionary, Pancho Villa. Ch 2

2:30 pm — THE LONE RANGER & THE LOST CITY OF GOLD, Clayton (L.R.) Moore & Jay (Tonto) Silverheels. Somehow I never quite bought the Lone Ranger's story that he wears the mask so as not to be recognized by criminals. Ch 11

3:00 pm — FOOTBALL! Jets vs Cowboys. I've run out of snide comments about football games (long before the networks ran out of football games requiring snide comment). More's the pity. Ch 2

4:00 pm — CITY BENEATH THE SEA, Robert Ryan in a rare underwater appearance. Ch 11

10:00 pm — THE PHANTOM SPEAKS, (1945) Ch 26

10:30 pm — YOUNG MAN WITH A HORN Kirk Douglas plays a youth whose life is destroyed by a bizarre growth on his forehead. Not for the kiddies. Ch 13

10:15 pm — THE WAR LOVER, Steve McQueen, Robert Wagner, Ch 11

12:20 am — SANDOKAN AGAINST THE LEOPARD OF SARAWAK, this Sandokan guy (Guy Madison, to be precise) must be the new king of late-night moviedom. Ch 11

12:44 am — THE TERRORNAUTS, Earth is once again at war with giant alien beings, but the power of the people is stronger than the Thing's technology. Ch 2

Sun, Dec 5 —

11:30 am — FOOTBALL! Giants vs Redskins. Be sure to watch for pig celebrities in the crowd, and ponder the socio-political significance of their presence. Ch 11

3:00 pm — SANDS OF IWO JIMA, John Wayne zaps the Japanese warlords, which is approximately what Mao was doing at the time. Ch 11

10:30 pm — INDIAN LOVE CALL, The one and only, Jeannette MacDonald as Rose Marie, Nelson Eddy as the Mountain, and Rudolf Friml as Himself. Ch 2

11:00 pm — SHERLOCK HOLMES & TERROR BY NIGHT. Ch 11

Mon Dec 6 —

8:00 pm — FOOTBALL! And on Monday night too, you lucky stiffs! KC vs SF. Ch 13

10:00 pm — LADY FROM CHUNGKING (1942) Anna May Wong leads Chinese guerrilla band against the evil Japanese, while Chang sits on his ass. Ch 26

10:30 pm — BACK FROM THE DEAD, it's a nice place to visit, but ... Ch 11

Tue, Dec 7 —

8:00 pm — VICTORY AT SEA, boom, crash, thud. Ch 39

9:30 pm — ALL IN THE FAMILY, will this, the most innovative prime-time series in recent memory, be reduced to a formula? Stay tuned. Ch 11

Wed, Dec 8 —

9:00 pm — ROD SERLING'S NIGHT GALLERY, usually entertaining. Ch 2

Thu, Dec 9 —

7:00 pm — THE PLOT TO KILL HITLER, in the assassination game, a miss is as good as a mile. Ch 11

Fri, Dec 10 —

10:30 pm — FLYING TIGERS, John Wayne vs the Chinese people. Ch 11

Sat, Dec 11 —

12:00 pm — FOOTBALL! Detroit vs Minnesota. Ch 11

12:30 pm — CARSON CITY KID, Roy Rogers. Ch 26

1:00 pm — FOOTBALL! Somebody vs Somebody Else. Ch 13

1:00 pm — TREASURE ISLAND, The original, with Wallace Berry and Jackie Cooper. Ch 2

3:00 pm — FOOTBALL! Dolphins vs Colts. Winner will compete in the fabulous Mammal Bowl. Ch 2

Sat, Dec 11, Cont.

4:00 pm — THE DEADLY MANTIS, monster movie starring suave Craig (Peter Gunn) Stevens, Ch 11

7:00 pm — MONSTER THAT CHALLENGED THE WORLD, Ch 26

10:00 pm — UNEARTHLY, John Carradine experiments on his captives. Ch 26

10:15 pm — KIM, Errol Flynn takes up the white man's burden. Ch 11

12:35 am — ZANZABUKU, an African documentary. Ch 11

12:39 am — THEY CAME FROM BEYOND SPACE, "turning men into robots, enslaving women and making cities into places of terror." Strangely enough, nobody notices the difference. Ch 2

Sun, Dec 12 —

10:30 am — JIM THORPE, ALL-AMERICAN Ch 13

11:30 am — FOOTBALL! Cowboys vs Giants. Ch 11

10:30 pm — CHAMP, Wallace Berry, Jackie Cooper. Ch 2

11:30 pm — PRISONER OF WAR, Ronald Reagan getting a realistic political education in Hollywood. Ch 13

Mon, Dec 13 —

8:00 pm — FOOTBALL! Redskins vs Rams. Ch 13

All in all, the whole week is riddled with terrible programming, made worse by the inclusion of innumerable Holiday Specials (where Andy Williams gets to introduce his parents to the nation for the umpteenth time, etc.). Right-thinking folks are encouraged to abstain from TV; if you get too bored, you can go downtown and steal hats from traffic cops.

MOVIES

RICE MEDIA CENTER

In the stadium parking lot on the Rice Univ campus (enter off University Blvd, first bldg on the right). FREE movies most every Fri Sat, and Sun night at 8:00 pm. Also on Fri, Dec 3, at 7:30 & 10:00 pm DIARY OF A MAD HOUSEWIFE, an excellent film, will be shown in Hamman Hall. Probably some charge for MAD HOUSEWIFE but the films below are FREE!

Fri, Dec 3 — TOUCH OF EVIL, Orson Welles

Sat, Dec 4 — DEAD OF NIGHT

Sun, Dec 5 — SILENCE AND THE CRY, Miklos Jansco

OTHER FILMS OF NOTE (listings subject to change)

MILLHOUSE — Dick Nixon's career, from high comedy to low blow, is captured on film by Emile de Antonio. At the Bellaire.

MAN IN THE WILDERNESS — Richard Harris alone in the frozen wastes (just like you and me) At a zillion theaters near you.

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA — The Marx Bros. at the Park III.

HOUSE OF WAX — 1539 classic back in 3-D, with Vincent Price like always. Buncha places.

JOE HILL — The founder of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), hanged by The State. Gaylynn

T.R. BASKIN — Candice Bergen and Peter Boyle as usual. Galleria, as usual.

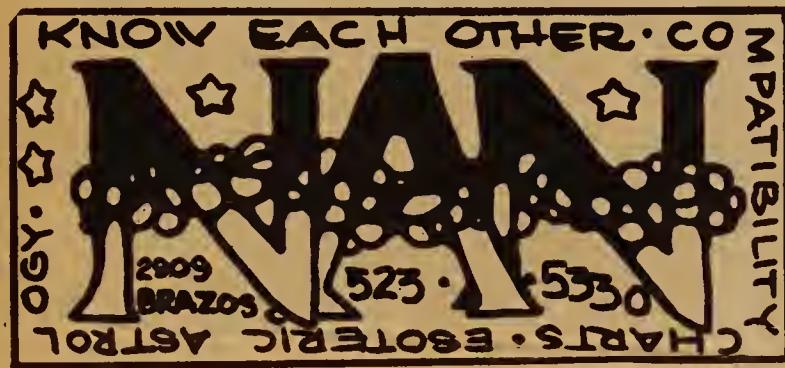
HOA BINH — Raoul Coutard fought in Viet Nam during the French colonial war (on the French side) and was cinematographer for Godard, Truffaut, and Costa-Gavras. He directs this "quasi-documentary" about an orphan boy in Viet Nam. At the Park III.

THEATRE

TEXAS SOUTHERN

TO BE YOUNG, GIFTED AND BLACK — Touring production of play about Lorraine Hansberry. Directed by William Mott. Thurs, Dec 2, 8 pm. Mack H. Hannah Aud, TSU.

cont. on 22



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Lights By GLOW WORM, INC. + Sounds Of Today

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Beer Bust Every Tuesday

Open 8 till 2

691-1077

520 Thornton St. Closed Mondays

Theatre cont. from 21

MUSIC HALL

HAIR — Yes, friends, finally in Houston, Ho, hum. SW Concerts-PACE Prod. Dec 4-19 (except Dec 9, 10, 13). Sat, 6:30-10:30 pm; weekdays, 8:30 pm; Sun, 2:30-8:30 pm. (Also a matinee Dec 8, 2:30 pm.) Music Hall, 223-4822.

ALLEY THEATRE

A FLEA IN HER EAR — French farce by Georges Feydeau about marital infidelity. Features wild 'n wooly Mack Sennett-style situations & chases. Directed by R. Edward Leonard; set & costumes by Jerry Williams. Opens Thurs, Dec 2, 8 pm, Thru Dec 9. Tues-Fri, 8:30 pm; Sat, 5 & 9 pm; Sun, 2:30 & 7:30 pm. 228-8421.

RICE PLAYERS

FOR THE TIME BEING — Christmas oratorio by W.H. Auden. Directed by Neil Havens. Features Becky Bonar, Dr. Charles Garside & Ronald Atkins plus a chorus of 13. Dec 1-4, 8 pm, at the Rice Memorial Chapel on the Rice Campus. Admission is FREE. First come, first serve.

JONES COLLEGE THEATRE

PROIE AND PREJUICE — Jane Austin's novel, adapted by Jane Kendall & directed by Julie Gianelloni. Thru Dec 5, 8 pm, Jones Hall Commons, 7 Sunset, Rice Univ.

FONDREN ST THEATRE

THE SOUND OF MUSIC — We're not quite sure why Phil Desterman decided to rehash this Oldie But . . . They're incorporating multimedia effects, including slides provided by the Manned Spacecraft Center. Sets are by Jim Slink. Marlene Vandiver & Leonard Dean star. Tues-Thurs, 7:30 pm; Fri-Sat, 8 pm, Sun, 7 pm. Dark Mon. Fondren at Oaffodil, 783-9930.

STUDIO 7

WINO IN THE WILLOWS — new kid's musical, based on Kenneth Grahame's tale. Directed by Chris Wilson; musical direction by Herff Applewhite; choreography by Ron Apshire. Adapted for stage by Varney Knapp, music by George Mornstern. Sat, at 2 pm, thru Dec 18. Houston Music Theatre, SW Fwy, Fondren exit, 771-3851.

UNIV OF ST THOMAS

THE HOBBIT — Stars Richard Carlson as Bilbo and Jim Ledbetter as Gandalf. Sats, 11 am and 2 pm, Jones Theatre, 3812 Montrose, 522-7911, x 305.

THEATRE SUBURBIA

HIGH'RISE — World premiere of original play by Charles Schmidt, chairman of the drama dept at Sam Houston State Univ. Directed by Jim Sledow. Fri, Sat — 8:30 pm, Thru Dec 18. \$2; students, \$1. 1410 W, 43rd St, 682-3525.

TEATRO EXPERIMENTAL

CABEZA DE PIEDRA — Presented by UH Comm on Mexican-American Studies. Written by Marcos Urbino of Houston. Concerns problems of chicanos in school. Performed in Spanish. Sat, Dec 4, 8 pm. Cullen Auditorium, UH.

ART

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS (1001 Bissonnet)

PAUL JENKINS — retrospective show with 37 oils & acrylics, Cuillinan Hall.

INDO-ASIAN ART — Jones Galleries

CERAMICS — work by Richard Lincoln & Richard Hyslin, School Studios.

INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS

OE MENIL COLLECTION — works from the collection for the John de Menil at the Art Gallery, Univ. & Stockton.

ANDRE KERTZER — photographic retrospective, Media Center, Univ. & Stockton.

CONTRACT GRAPHICS — "Big Drawings of Superstars" by Billy Sullivan. 20 drawings and paintings. Subject matter such as Jane Fonda, Gerald Malanga, and Viva, all of Andy Warhol film fame. 5116 Morningside.

KIKO GALLERY — drawings & graphics by the likes of Calder and Miro. Lovett

MATRIX — interesting stuff (paintings, sculpture, ceramics) and, it's in the community! 2400 Taft.

LATENT IMAGE — photography by Charles Schoore, 1122 Bissonnet.

ADEPT GALLERY — WHITE MAN'S

ACRES, paintings by black artists, directed by Vivian Ayers. Artists include Burford Evans, Luthor Walker, Willie Moore, Johnnie Scales.

BLACK GALLERY — paintings, sculpture & crafts of black artists. At Operation Breadbasket, 2313 Dowling.

ARTIST OUTLET COMMUNITY GALLERY black artists, 2603 Blodgett.

SPEEOBY'S OLD PRINTS — Xmas exhibition of 18th and 19th century prints, drawings and water colors on the topics of wintertime & holiday seasons of yesteryear. Thru Dec 24, 607 Harold.

STUDENT PRINT SALE — Under \$25. Nov 3, 10 am-5 pm, Art Annex, UH.

ANO ANDTHER PRINT SALE — final sale of Print Club of Institute of Arts, Oct 7, 10 am-4 pm, Rice Univ.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH — Under \$25 art sale. Features works by well-known (and less well-known) Houston area artists. Oct 4-5; 11-12, 9 am-5 pm.

INS & OUTS

NATIONAL ANTI-WAR CONVENTION

The National Peace Action Coalition (the makers of April 24 and November 6) have called a national conference for the weekend of Dec 3-5 in Cleveland, Ohio, to discuss what to do now that the war is still going on. For details, call the Peace Center, 227-1646.

STARVE MA BELL

Lawsuits are being filed in Northern California to stop the IRS from collecting the 10% "temporary war tax" on YOUR phone bill. The way it works is, people sign a pledge to pay their tax into a trust fund rather than to the phone company, and agree to be listed as a trustee of the fund in the lawsuit. All this is safe (the only penalty likely to be assessed is a 6 per cent interest charge on the unpaid tax) so, there is little excuse for not participating. For more info, write the TELEPHONE WAR TAX PRTEST, Box 573, Kentfield, Ca. 94904

NAME THAT QUOTE

"I've always thought this country could run itself domestically without a President...." (see answer below)

THE BUFFALO COMETH FAB NEW CONTEST

Win a date with the fabulous Buffalo Bruce from New Jersey when he makes his first Houston appearance. This teen idol is planning to make his home in the Bayou City and rumor is he's got a pad all staked out. To win, simply guess the date and time that the Buffalo will enter Houston and send your entry to:

OATE WITH BUFFALO Editor
1217 Wichita
Houston Tx, 77004

Closest guesser wins a date with Buffalo himself. Hurry, he'll probably be here in a month or two.

Richard M. Nixon, 1967
ANSWER TO NAME THAT QUOTE:
cont. on next page



ing inexcusable, but that there is no comparison between the Brown & Root building and the building on Hillcroft. The Brown and Root building, with 76,000 square feet, is solidly built, with the best materials. The building on Hillcroft, with only 21,000 square feet, is just a cheaply constructed office building, he said. A look at copies of the city tax files on these two buildings seems to confirm his story.

The city tax records show a detailed appraisal made in 1968 on the new Brown & Root engineering building, which was then 55 per cent complete. The value on the appraisal is \$14 per square foot, or a total value of \$2,758,280. The difference, as the ex-appraiser said, is more than \$171,000.

There is a notation on the slip which reads, "Bldg reduced by unit value to bring closer to units used in comparable bids. See comparable at 6655 Hillcroft acc no. 126-48-3-2." The cut was made, just as we were told it was.

We also found an appraisal made on the building at 6655 Hillcroft. The unit value on this appraisal is \$13.60 per square foot, or a total value of \$607,460. But, again, we find on a Board of Equalization Slip we find a lower square foot value of \$11.75 or a total value of \$522,740. There are two notations on this slip. The one on top reads, "Base units are in line with bldg costs-owner's reported cost would indicate a base unit of under \$9.50 per sq. ft. - no change is justified. (This is the appraiser's note.) The notation under this is in handwriting that appears the same as the handwriting on the Brown & Root board slip explaining that cut. It reads, "Bd Recheck - unit changed to bring closer to figures furnished." (This from someone in the tax department.) Again, all the figures checked out, as did the accompanying notations. A cut, of almost \$2 per square foot was

given on the building at 6655 Hillcroft after one appraiser had put a value on it and a second appraiser had confirmed that value to be correct. Then this undervalued property was used as a basis of comparison to cut the appraised value on the Brown & Root building, by \$2 per square foot. Thus more tax dollars are lost to the city.

B & R AIRPLANE HANGER

Brown & Root also has an airplane hanger out at the old Hobby airport, on which the company receives still another tax break, according to an former city appraiser. The hanger is carried on the tax roles as *personal property* rather than as improvements, as buildings should be. With the hanger listed as personal property, Brown & Root can take an annual depreciation on it (buildings can't be depreciated yearly), thus reducing the taxable value very rapidly. This, of course reduces the *taxes* on the property very rapidly.

The land at Hobby airport is owned by the city and is not taxable, but any improvement (building) constructed there by private enterprise should be *taxed* as an improvement. There are over 30 "improvements only" accounts out there, many of them hangers owned by various companies. Only one building is carried as a personal property account — the Brown & Root airplane hanger.

Our former appraiser said he found out about this when he and his partner went out to revalue the property tax roles. They placed it on the role, but when they turned in the reevaluations to the tax office the Brown & Root hanger was immediately put back into the personal property category. He said the only way he can explain this is "favoritism."

This "favoritism" seems to extend to certain individuals within Brown & Root, as you can see in the accompanying report.



Ins & Outs Cont.

FREE CLINIC

The Lynn Eusan Clinic, 1501 Calumet (Corner of Calumet and LaBranch) is going to be open three days a week and expanding their program (which now includes VO testing, immunization, and drug information). Call them at 523-7960 if you need medical help or if you can help out at the clinic.

CHRISTMAS OVERSEAS

The Red Cross will be recording "talking letters" for families of servicemen stationed overseas and for foreign students who cannot make it home for Xmas. The recording may be made by appointment in late November and early December, at the Red Cross Chapter House and at several neighborhood centers. Call 227-1151 for details.

GAY LIBERATION DANCE

Pre-holiday dance sponsored by Gay Liberation to be held in the world famous Houston Room in the University Center of UH. Attire: Anything goes, drag, formal, hip, freaky or conservative. There will be a prize for the most unusual and original and also a booby prize. Who can attend? Anybody, straight, gay or whatever. TIME: 8 pm to 12 pm. DONATION \$1 (for a good cause). Plan to attend, brothers and sisters; you'll be pleasantly surprised.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER CLASSES
Session "B" of the Fall program of adult classes & activities begins Dec. 6. There are more than 100 classes being offered, including art criticism, advanced photography, speed reading and sign language. The center is at 5601 S. Braeswood. Registration forms and a free schedule can be had by calling 729-3200.



Honest Threads - not just another jean store with red, white and blue walls, \$10 shirts and \$12 jeans. Honest Threads offers you an alternative, a shop to get the functional clothes you need at prices that will jive with your economy. We're a cross between a bargain basement, Goodwill Store and factory outlet - with the best of each put together. With today's clothes and yesterday's prices.

For instance:

used jeans, patched and ready to go - \$2.75.
fur coats, all sizes and styles - from \$5 to \$15.
new denim bellbottom jeans - \$5
leather and suede jackets (old) - from \$4.
antique velvet party dresses - from \$3.50
plus many more things to keep you warm this winter, from \$2.

OPENING SATURDAY
506 Westheimer
between Montrose and Taft
522-4811

Pot Luck

unclassifieds

SALE: '62 VW Bus-needs some work, \$300
Call after 6 pm, 781-4527

COLEY, call Palge, 529-0579 or 465-2436.
They are willing to change their attitude.

THIS COULD BE YOU: If you are a musician who plays bass guitar, interested in forming new musical relations, creating melodic space music, we are looking for you. Call us and we can arrange to meet & play in our insulated comodium. Please call 522-2250 or 521-0778 for Dan or Steve.

FOR SALE: 1966 VW Fastback, \$695 or trade for van or bus in good mechanical condition. Tom Kearns, 524-4409.

FENDER JAGUAR guitar with case, \$300.
Also, epiphone amp, 523-6593.

GENUINE NEW MEXICO Fly Hounds. Ten bucks or trade. Will weigh ca. 70 pounds, 102 Hyde Park.

WANTEO! Extraordinary male vocalist, needed for new rock band, preferably with equipment (PA). Please call Mark, 774-4275, or Steve, 723-3592.

ANYONE FIXING to buy a purebred dog should check with the BBB-224-6111 to see if they have a file on the person or concern. And call the SPCA to see if there is a breed club for that kind of dog, so you could attend a meeting and meet some reputable breeders. Even if you're got interested in show quality, I assume you want a dog that looks at least remotely like the pictures that sold you on it. Just concerned.

COOPERATIVE LIVING—duplex house needs 2 more to help share rent, cooking, child care, ... Big house. Rent around \$60/head
The AARDVARK NEST 666-7916

LOST—in Hermann Park, Sunday. Small engraved gold cross on gold chain. Please call Jan after 5:30 at 529-7869. Reward.

FOR SALE: '62 VW bus, needs some work, \$300. Call after 6 pm, 781-4527.

CONSCIENTIOUS 24 year old girl desires steady, evening child care work. Call evenings 523-6956, or days 223-6191, Ext 261 and ask for Ellen.

GOING TO LA? I need a ride to Los Angeles area Dec 18 or as soon as possible after. Will share driving and expenses. If you have a ride or know of one, please leave a message for Mark at 664-8232.

THE NATURAL HIGH: Turn yourself on now. Alpha brainwave sensors. Free demonstration. Good Xmas gifts. Call 522-2419, or 433-2320 after 6:00.

NEW VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT needs experienced vegetarian cook and bread man. Please call 522-5954.

GERMAN SHEPHERD: Belge color, female, FREE. One year old. Moving to apt, need new home for Misty. Beautiful character. Call 621-0516 after 5:00.

FOR SALE: RCA turntable, \$30; RCA AM-FM radio, \$30; RCA 8 track cartridge home unit, console type, great sound, \$75. Call 467-9584 after 1 pm. Ask for Marilyn.

FENOER MUSTANG electric guitar. Red, double pickup, Good buy, \$100. Call Mike at 523-1836 after 6.

FOR SALE: 3-speed girl's bicycle, one year old. Good condition. Call 528-5269 after 5 pm, Mon-Fri.

WANTEO OESPERATELY: Large old home, at least 3 bedrooms. One farkle, one farmer, one Ratzo. Please contact one of the above at 4310 Mt. Vernon, Apt 3. REWARD. Money no object.

WANTEO: Freak home for cosmic Siamese cat, 6 month old male, sealpoint. Call 529-8351 or 523-6825.

FOR SALE: Kitchen stove and refrigerator, \$30 each. Also 10-speed Schwinn bike, \$65. Call 524-2626.

\$10.00 RANSOM offered for Liberty Hall mailing list book taken Nov 25; Thank you.

GIANT HOUSE for rent, 7-8 bedrooms, 4 baths. Ideal for large commune. \$350. or best offer. Call 524-6020.

unclassifieds

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